



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Tuesday
13 November 1990

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Chad

Reportage of Sudan-Based Islamic Legion Attack

Communique Issued

AB1011195590 Ndjamena Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 10 Nov 90

["Government Communique" issued by the Council of Ministers in Ndjamena on 10 November 1990]

[Text] An emergency cabinet meeting, attended by the Executive Board of the National Assembly and the Executive Bureau of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR], was held today, Saturday, 10 November 1990, under the chairmanship of His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre, president of the Republic, head of state, founding chairman of the UNIR.

A single item featured on the agenda: the violent armed aggression directed once more against Chad. Indeed, this morning, at 0630 [0530 GMT], the hordes of mercenaries of the Islamic Legion, operating from their bases in Libya and Sudan, launched a violent attack against positions of the Chadian Armed Forces in the Tine region. Fighting of rare intensity is still going on, the gangs of aggressors having been heavily and massively equipped by Chad's enemies.

Thus, as was announced by the government, at the emergency cabinet meeting of 31 July this year, Libya and Sudan have just moved into action by unleashing their hordes of mercenaries against Chad from Darfur. For, it should be remembered, this fresh aggression—whose design, preparation, and execution were monitored from beginning to end by the Chadian authorities—is definitely the work of those with whom Chad maintains and deploys untiring efforts aimed at peace.

Judge for yourselves: From 24 to 27 October 1990, the Chadian and Libyan foreign ministers met in Tripoli with a view to giving impetus to the peace process and making concrete the commitments made at the Rabat summit. During the same period, the Chadian Government received in Ndjamena a high-powered Sudanese delegation which came to reassure Chad of Sudan's supposed desire for peace.

In these circumstances, this new armed aggression is nothing more than the flagrant manifestation of the double standards adopted by Chad's enemies, as well as their permanent desire to destabilize, in fact, to destroy Chad completely. At any rate, this fresh aggression is merely a continuation of those launched in October-November 1989, and in March-April 1990.

Thus, the Government of the Republic of Chad holds Libya and Sudan entirely and totally responsible for this aggression. Consequently, Chad intends to cope with this situation with all the means at its disposal, and fully

assume its responsibility to defend the fatherland, the integrity of its territory, and the security of its people.

Therefore, the Government of the Third Republic calls on the Chadian people to rise up, as they have always done in such circumstances, to crush the aggressors and thereby take up the great challenge of the moment. Furthermore, Chad wishes to draw the attention of international opinion to the grave situation created by Libya and Sudan.

Done at Ndjamena on 10 November 1990. [Signed] The Council of Ministers.

Rebels From Habre's Region

AB111120890 Lagos International Service
in English 1030 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] The Government of Chad has reported heavy fighting with Libyan-backed forces which it says attacked its territory from Sudan. The statement said fighting broke out at daybreak yesterday and continued throughout the day around the border post of north-eastern Chad. Chad has frequently accused Libya of arming and encouraging mercenaries to attack Chadian territory. Reports say the attackers are Chadians, led by Mr. Idriss Deby, a former army chief, once a companion to President Hissein, who went into exile last year.

A Voice of Nigeria correspondent in Chad says the group of rebels are drawn from the president's own region. This is probably the biggest threat to his government, which has managed to defeat almost all its other opponents.

Libya Denies Involvement

AB1111123090 Paris AFP in French 1127 GMT
11 Nov 90

[Text] Paris, 11 Nov (AFP)—Libya "categorically denies any involvement in events in eastern Chad," according to a communique issued by the Libyan Embassy here today. Yesterday, the Chadian Government accused "elements of the Libyan Islamic Legion based in Sudan" of having launched a "violent attack" in eastern Chad and denounced "the duplicity and evil designs of Tripoli and Khartoum."

Libya, the Libyan communique goes on, is committed to all the accords signed with Chad. "Its decision to refer the (Libyan-Chadian) territorial dispute to the International Court of Justice in the Hague is evidence of this commitment." The communique further says, "Libya is only responsible for its border with Chad; it is in no way responsible for Chad's borders with other countries," and reaffirms that the current events in Chad "are nothing but a tribal and civilian war between the Azakawas tribe represented by Idriss Deby (former chief of staff of the Chadian Army) and the Gorane tribe represented by Hissein Habre." Regarding the so-called Islamic Legion, "it is a mere fabrication," says the communique.

"We advise Chadians to avoid accusing Libya—whenever their internal rivalry, conflict, and problems surface—in order to hide the internal nature of their discord," the communique further said, noting that "recourse to such allegations" harms relations between the countries and Africa's interests. The communique appeals for the triumph of common sense so that problems will be treated with "restraint and through dialogue."

Government Says Rebels Routed

LD1111205790 Paris International Service
in French 1830 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] In Chad the government affirms that its forces have driven the rebels back to the other side of the border, after 24 hours of violent fighting. I remind you that the government forces of President Hisssein Habre have been confronting those of the dissident Idriss Deby since yesterday at dawn. The two sides are holding each other responsible for the attack: Ndjama sees the hand of Libya behind the sending of the Islamic troops, but this is totally denied by Idriss Deby's Patriotic Salvation Movement [MPS], which points out that the fighting is strictly nothing to do with Sudan and Libya. Christophe Boisbouvier, what is the situation this evening on the ground?

[Boisbouvier] According to the Chadian authorities, the most violent fighting reportedly lasted 24 hours from yesterday morning to this morning. It reportedly began with an attack by a column of 2,000 rebels against small posts in the area surrounding Tine in the east of Chad, very close to the Sudanese border. This morning, after 24 hours of intense fighting, states the communique, the rebel columns were reportedly routed. Still, according to the official communique from Ndjama, the surviving rebels are now trying, in the greatest disorder, to return to the base from which they departed in Darfur in Sudan.

That is the government version: as you can imagine, Deby's MPS, it was the government forces which reportedly attacked first at the Sudanese border yesterday morning, and they were then intercepted by the rebel forces which reportedly counterattacked in the direction of Tine, Guereda, and Iriba. The rebels confirmed that fighting was continuing this morning, on the other hand, they have not confirmed a possible routing of their columns. [paragraph as received]

The resources on both sides are substantial: The government forces, under the command on the ground of Chief of Staff Allafoza Koni Worini, have 10,000 men, French Panhard armored cars, and Milan missiles; the rebel forces, which are under the command of the former chief of staff Idriss Deby, have 2,000 men, Brazilian Cascavel armored cars, and also some Milan missiles. At the present time one is not yet sure of anything, but if the government forces have in fact succeeded in routing the rebel forces, one can imagine that they will try and continue with their advantage right into Sudanese territory, as they did last April when they went 200 km into

Sudanese territory to try and wipe out the forces of Idriss Deby—which they did not succeed in doing at the time.

Foreign Minister Comments

AB1111220890 Ndjama Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Yesterday's aggression against our country was the subject of a briefing at the Ministry of External Relations. The briefing was made by Minister Acheikh ibn-Oumar to the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations. Ouangmoutching Hom-sala, the state secretary for external relations, and (Michel Kune), the director general, also attended the meeting. Chad's territorial integrity is threatened, the head of Chadian diplomacy said. He also added that our country, which longs for peace, will not remain passive in the face of this aggression. Here is the full recording of Minister Acheikh ibn-Oumar's briefing.

[Begin Acheikh recording] Your excellencies, ambassadors, and representatives of international organizations, once again, Chad's territorial integrity and independence are threatened. [Words indistinct], our people, who have been fighting courageously to meet the challenges of underdevelopment, natural disasters, and socioeconomic and political reconstruction, have seen their hard-won gains jeopardized. Once again, neighboring countries, with whom we share important geographical and historical ties and have always approached in dialogue and fraternity, have stabbed us in the back. Yes, once again, the valiant Chadian National Armed Forces, which have sacrificed their lives for the nation's freedom, have been violently attacked by mercenaries of the Islamic Legion.

Indeed, since yesterday morning at 0630 intense fighting has been taking place in the border area of Tine. Massively armed troops from (Ouenad) in Libya and Darfur in Sudan have, for the third time within a year, tried to break through the positions of our armed forces. Details on the number of men, equipment, and supplies of this gang of mercenaries have been published many times by the Chadian Government.

You should recall that since the 1 April coup attempt, the Tripoli Government has been out of touch with reality. They thought it was a good opportunity to cover their act of destabilizing Chad. There are, however, Chadians among the fighters of the Islamic Legion, which by definition is a cluster of people from various nationalities. These Chadians were recruited by force in Sudan or Libya or hired for petrodinars. They do not change the basic nature of the regular Libyan Army which only uses foreigners. They are trained, armed, headed by officers of the Libya Armed Forces staff, and led into action for Libyan objectives.

The fact that this aggression took place when peace talks between Chad and Libya are approaching a major turn is additional proof of the Libyan regime's demagoguery. Libya, which is supported by Sudan, has not only not

shelved its nonsensical plan to destabilize sub-Saharan African countries, but it continues to think that military aggression, over diplomatic or political means, is the way to win.

Chad has been recovering from the large-scale war of occupation imposed on it for many years. It has now embarked on its economic reconstruction, restoration of its sociocultural structures, and the setting up of democratic institutions. Chad is aware of the need to bring its original and necessary contribution to the emergence of a new international economic and political order. It aspires to peace and stability. Unfortunately, we have noticed that the patience and spirit of dialogue the Government of the Third Republic, under the leadership of El Hadj Hissein Habre, the founding president, has so far shown—even in the hardest times—have been interpreted by Chad's enemies as weakness and an encouragement to aggression.

Therefore, we would like to make it known that Chad does not intend to remain passive and let this situation last eternally, a situation whereby we are regularly attacked by people we regard as our neighbors and brothers. The Chadian people, its Armed Forces, and its rallying movement, the National Union for Independence and Revolution, UNIR, are determined to draw the lessons of this new aggression. Those who [word indistinct] to sow love and [word indistinct] in a country which only wants to live in peace, must expect to bear all the consequences of their sacrifices.

Your excellencies, ambassadors, and representatives, your presence in this country has made you witnesses of the efforts by the Government of the Third Republic to rebuild our war-torn economy; methodically set up democratic political institutions; negotiate or maintain dialogue in order to preserve and consolidate the [word indistinct] of a peaceful settlement of the territorial dispute with Libya. Thus, once again, we rely on you to be the faithful messengers of this reality to the friendly countries and organizations you represent. It is also proof that you have never failed to support Chad morally and materially. [end recording]

'Fierce Fighting'

AB1211203690 Ndjamenan Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 12 Nov 90

["Military Communique No. 10 of the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces, FANT—place, date not given]

[Text] Military Communique No. 10 [number as heard] of the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces:

Following the Communique of the FANT High Command of 11 November 1990, today, 12 November, fierce fighting has been taking place to the east of Tine between the FANT and the forces of aggression and invasion. As is clear from the government communique of 10

November 1990, the FANT are more than ever determined to crush the foreign invasion, thereby deserving the great trust placed on them by the entire Chadian people, whose support and sacrifice have always accompanied the FANT in their action for the defense of the martyr-fatherland.

'Mercenary Column' Confused

AB1211215090 Ndjamenan Domestic Service
in French 1904 GMT 11 Nov 90

["Military Communique" Issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces, FANT]

[Text] A government communique yesterday informed the world of the violent armed aggression to which Chad was once again subjected by the horde of mercenaries of the Islamic Legion from their base in Libya and Sudan.

In fact, a large motorized column, comprising nearly 2,000 mercenaries armed with automatic machine guns, Cas-cavel armored vehicles, and [words indistinct] attacked Chadian National Armed Forces, FANT, positions in the Tine Region. With the sharp reaction of our courageous armed forces, violent fighting ensued for nearly 24 hours, and put the forces of aggression into disarray.

As this communique is being published, the mercenary column has been routed and the survivors are trying, in great confusion, to return to their point of departure in Darfur, Sudan. In our next communique, I will give you the outcome of this heroic FANT riposte to the forces of aggression in the pay of Libya and Sudan. The assailants and their expansionist Libyan masters have once again learned to their detriment that nobody can violate our sacred territory with impudence.

By this action, the glorious soldiers of the FANT have once again showed their strong determination to defend the fatherland against any threat.

Rwanda

Pelletier on Refugees, Al-Qadhdhafi in Uganda

EA1011131690 Kigali Domestic Service in French
0430 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] Last night the president of the Republic received Jacques Pelletier, French cooperation minister, and Jean Christophe Mitterrand, adviser on African affairs to the French head of state. The french minister, who arrived from Zaire where he held talks with the Zairian president, informed our head of state of the results of his lengthy tour of the five neighboring countries which are all preoccupied with the conflict between us and the Patriotic Front of the Inkotanyi [rebels]. The results of this diplomatic ballet? Here is Mr. Pelletier's response:

[Pelletier] We made a brief report on our rapid but very interesting tour during which we met the five heads of the states surrounding Rwanda. We welcomed the

opportunity to meet the heads of state who are very informed about the problem and who consider this problem important and serious and one that should be solved very quickly to prevent things from staying as they are.

In other words, a cease-fire must be reached as soon as possible. Observers must go into the field, as was decided during an earlier meeting, and a regional conference on this problem, on the refugee problem, should be held to resolve the refugee problem. Some of the refugees certainly wish to return home, but they are definitely a minority. The others wish, above all, to have access to a national identity and to be, if necessary, allowed to spend a few days in Rwanda to visit family members who have remained in the country.

I believe that if we manage to—if the states of the region manage to—hold this regional meeting, I believe this will probably allow this important regional problem to be resolved. There are many refugees from other countries in all countries, and I believe that if Rwanda's problem is solved, it could help solve other refugee problems.

[Announcer] On the sufficiency of material and financial resources available to us to accommodate the refugees who wish to return, the French minister declared that Europeans, the French and Belgians in particular, were ready to assist us, but he pointed out that the key to the solution remained in the hands of the states of the region. Let us listen to him:

[Pelletier] It is here that we can help out. We Europeans—when I say Europeans I refer above all to the French and the Belgians, as you know we are in close contact, we work hand in hand with the Belgians and we share a common approach to the problem—we are not here to impose a solution. The solution must be in the hands of the states of the region. It is the Africans themselves who must solve the problem. We are there to support, if necessary, the steps toward financial and material assistance to settle the problem. You have just talked about the repatriation of refugees, and there is no doubt that Rwanda will surely have difficulties in accommodating them (given) your country's population density. However, we Europeans, French and Belgians and possibly other donors, are ready to help you financially to solve this problem.

[Unidentified correspondent] Since you are in regular contact with the Belgians, do you share the same impressions and opinions about this war?

[Pelletier] I think so, given that before departing we met the Belgian foreign minister and we believe that we totally agree on this problem.

[Correspondent] Will France still help Rwanda militarily?

[Pelletier] Militarily, France does not help Rwanda except for a few advisers and a mission belonging to the French Cooperation Mission. The paratroopers in Rwanda are there to protect our nationals, foreign nationals, and our

government premises: the embassy and the French Cooperation Mission. There is no doubt at all that these paratroopers will not be here for good. The faster the situation returns to normal, the sooner our paratroopers will depart. It is quite logical. The Belgians left, and ours will definitely leave. They will not stay in a country forever, even if the country is very friendly to France.

[Correspondent] During your lengthy tour of this region, a familiarization and assessment tour, you probably had the opportunity to learn about al-Qadhafi's visit to Uganda in this tense period in the region. Was it a mere coincidence or [words indistinct] another meaning?

[Pelletier] I think it was a mere coincidence. I think that the Ugandan president and the Libyan president have known each other for a long time, and they meet from time to time. It is only logical and natural that al-Qadhafi came and spent a couple of days—48 hours I think—in Uganda to hold talks with President Museveni. I do not see any other implications. Before that, he was in Sudan. It was, in effect, an African tour.

Captured Rebels Presented to Newsmen

*EA1011185490 Kigali Domestic Service
in Kinyarwanda 1045 GMT 10 Nov 90*

[Excerpts] The Rwandan Armed Forces are continuing to capture some of the enemies who invaded our country. Today, the Ministry of Defense paraded before journalists from the state news agency and the National Revolutionary Movement for Development some of the rebels who were captured by our Armed Forces. All said that they were part of the battalion of approximately 3,000 people who were in the Kagera National Park. One of those who was captured was a corporal in the Ugandan Army. Before coming to fight Rwandans, three others were students in Uganda. Newsmen were able to see for themselves one of the Rwandan boys taken by force by the rebels, who armed them and obliged them to shoot their compatriots. The boy comes from Murambi commune, Rugarama sector, and is 13.

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Unidentified reporter] How many people did you leave in Akagera and what type of arms did they have?

[Unidentified boy] I left about 1,000 people and about 800 soldiers, in uniform and armed. There were also about 200 were people from Uganda, who said that they were waiting for arms to fight in Rwanda.

[Unidentified reporter] Did you see other young people of your age among those who were taken by the Inkotanyi [rebels] in order to teach them how to fight us?

[Boy] From Rwanda or from Uganda?

[Reporter] Rwandans like you.

[Boy] I left two people there. They told us that they had taken the lady to jail her and that they would not kill her and another kid of my age.

[Reporter] So there are other young boys of your age from Uganda?

[Boy] Yes, about 10 from Uganda, and the two girls.

[Reporter] But they were fighting?

[Boy] No, they were still learning. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Patriotic Front Issues Statement on Fighting

AB1211202490 Paris AFP in English 1716 GMT
12 Nov 90

[Text] Brussels, Nov 12 (AFP)—Rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) have killed 200 regular soldiers since seizing the strategic border post at Gatuna on November 2, the RPF said in a statement here. One week ago, the rebels fought back a government counter-offensive on the post on the Ugandan border, killing 26 government soldiers. A correspondent at Gatuna last Friday said the rebels pillaged the post before pulling out again earlier in the week.

The RPF statement here detailed attacks on military vehicles and five road convoys since November 2 and said rebels were still occupying northeastern Rwanda. Some 200 government soldiers had been killed, it said. They controlled roads between Gatuna and Byumba, Gabiro and Kagitumba and Rusomo and Kibungo, the statement said. These routes are essential in getting food and other supplies to landlocked Rwanda and neighbouring Burundi.

On a French peace initiative currently under way for the former Belgian colony, the rebel statement said the RPF would "respect a ceasefire if this led to negotiations between the parties to the conflict," meaning themselves and President Juvenal Habyarimana. The rebels invaded Rwanda from Uganda on October 1. Many were Tutsis who had deserted from the Ugandan army. Hundreds of thousands of Tutsis have lived in exile since Rwanda's majority Hutus seized power amid massacres in 1959.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, who is also current chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), at the weekend ordered the dismissal of all foreigners in the Ugandan army. Regional diplomatic efforts are currently aimed at setting up a conference on the problem of Rwanda's refugees as well as obtaining an effective ceasefire.

Belgian Minister Geens Arrives; Meets Press

EA1111210890 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Excerpts] The Belgian minister of cooperation arrived in our country today for a five-day official visit. On his

arrival at the Kanombe Gregoire Kayibanda International Airport, Mr. [Andre] Geens was met by Dr. Casimir Bizimungu, the Rwandan minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation. Answering questions from the national press, the Belgian minister said that the main aim of his visit was to make contact with Belgian expatriates still living in Rwanda so as to learn about the problems they have encountered in recent days and the new problems which may arise from possible necessary adjustments to their projects. The visit will allow Mr. Geens to meet Rwandan officials in order to reassure them of Belgium's continued cooperation with Rwanda and to discuss certain adjustments to the framework of projects, to determine priorities, and to find out whether it is necessary to modify priorities between the two countries.

On the question of whether Belgium would intervene in the realization of our structural adjustment plan, Mr. Geens gave a positive answer. Here is his answer at the microphone of our colleague Jean-Baptiste.

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Unidentified journalist] The structural adjustment comes at a time when we have the problem of assailants who invaded us from outside. The Belgian prime minister came here some time back to study the situation. Does your visit fall within this sphere?

[Geens] In principle I am dealing with cooperation but not with political aspects, which fall under the minister of foreign affairs and eventually the prime minister under certain conditions. On my part, I will not deal with that. Of course, I am interested in getting political information to take home and report to the government. What is clear is that my mission is mainly one within the framework of cooperation.

[Journalist] Do you think that the current situation will affect bilateral cooperation between the two countries?

[Geens] That will depend on the Rwandan Government. I have nothing to say on this. I think it is up to the Rwandan Government to determine the priorities. You know that we signed an agreement with Rwanda in the framework of joint management, whereby it is Rwanda which determines the priorities in identifying and realizing projects. In this framework, it is not up to us to determine the necessary modifications. On our part we are ready to assist them at each stage and step of each project from the beginning to the end in order to achieve better results.

[Journalist] Have you already anticipated giving assistance to our country in the framework of repatriating some refugees?

[Geens] I think that it is too early to say, because we must first wait for the regional conference which will take place and which has already been announced. Second, you have to see whether it will be within the framework of an eventual UN High Commissioner for Refugees program. That is important—it is possible to do this at

an international level. Once there are agreements between the heads of state of the various countries, we shall certainly be ready to contribute. But one has to have concrete projects and information before lending a hand. We have already given our agreement in principle. [end recording]

Canadian Envoy on Desire To Help in Crisis

EA1111210290 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] President Habyarimana this morning met at the village of Ururwiro the Canadian ambassador to Rwanda, who is resident in Kinshasa. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Laverdure said that the (?meeting) had been arranged at the request of the Canadian authorities in order to discuss the crisis experienced by Rwanda since 1 October. The Canadian diplomat also held talks on the crisis with other members of the government. Mr. Laverdure said that Canada, as a friendly country, wanted to help Rwanda reestablish peace in the country as quickly as possible.

[Begin recording] [Laverdure] We have been following the evolution of the crisis which your country has been experiencing for the last five weeks. From the beginning we displayed sympathy. You know at what level you can count (?upon us). Canada's friendship will not be questioned. All the incidents which have occurred, and questions related to peace, Canadian cooperation, the work of expatriates who are currently back in Canada, human rights, arrests, etc.—as a representative of a friendly country, I can only tell you that we discussed all these subjects with the president [words indistinct] and continue Canadian cooperation without delay.

[Unidentified journalist] Concerning the restoration of peace in Rwanda, what is Canada planning to do so that peace may return quickly?

[Laverdure] As I reminded his excellency the president, we are of course not Africans, we are not of this region, we are not members of the (?OAU), but we have many friends. Since the beginning of October, we have made several contacts with presidents of neighboring countries, both French- and English-speaking. We made the point that we were friends of Rwanda and we told the president that if he found that all was not going well with the implementation of the Mwanza and Gbadolite agreements, he should tell us without delay so that we might once again apply small pressures on some of the presidents of neighboring countries to make sure that the agreements are implemented and the cease-fire is observed, that the interposition force is set up and also that the regional conference on refugees is convened.

I know that some Europeans have expressed readiness to support the setting up of the interposition force at the logistical, technical, and financial levels, but no such request was put to Canada. Perhaps we could intervene

more in other areas. I stressed to the president the fact that since October, Canada is the only country that has intervened very rapidly, for example, in improving the daily lives of the thousands of prisoners. [end recording]

Food, Fuel Prices To Increase Up To 30 Percent

AB1111205490 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT
11 Nov 90

[Text] Nairobi, Nov 11 (AFP)—The Rwandan Government on Sunday announced food and fuel price increases of up to 30 per cent after devaluing the Rwandan franc by 40 per cent in a bid to revive the war-scarred economy. A six-week-old civil war has dealt a cruel blow to the fragile economy of Rwanda—a tiny, landlocked, Central African nation that has suffered chronic famine caused by overpopulation and soil erosion. Rwandan state radio, monitored here, said the government would increase the prices of rice, wheat, sugar cane, coffee, tea, petrol and oil by 25 to 30 per cent.

Since rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) invaded northeast Rwanda from neighbouring Uganda on October 1, the border between the two countries has been closed, stopping food imports that used to come via Uganda. Fresh food is running short in Kigali, the curfew-bound Rwandan capital, and the war has curtailed tourism, an important source of hard currency.

The slump in the price of coffee, Rwanda's main export, had already plunged the country into an economic crisis, now worsened by the rebel invasion. The government also said that "imports of essential goods such as sugar, salt, powdered milk for children, soft drinks, palm oil, soya bean oil, drugs, industrial fertilizers, pesticides and chemicals used to make lime are likely to consume 30 per cent of our foreign exchange."

The devaluation, announced Saturday, was in line with World Bank and International Monetary Fund recommendations, but was "undoubtedly precipitated by the war," according to a World Bank official contacted here. The closure of the Ugandan border has forced Rwandans to bring in many imports via Tanzania—a longer route with poorer roads.

Rwanda's main tourist attractions, the Parc des Volcans, famous for its gorillas, and the Kagera National Park, are both in the combat zone. The rebels have said their strategy is to wear down the government by mounting guerrilla attacks on military and economic targets.

If the war ended now, Rwanda's economy would need three years to recover, the radio quoted economists as saying. "If the conflict continues for long, the situation of the country's economy will turn from bad to worse," the radio said. The rebels have said they are digging in for a prolonged guerrilla war, but diplomats in the region say financing such a war would spell economic disaster for Rwanda.

Ethiopia

Mengistu Discusses Falashas, Israeli Relations

TA1111101890 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM
POST in English 11 Nov 90 p 5

[Part two of two-part "exclusive" interview with President Mengistu Haile-Mariam by Micha Odenheimer; place and date not given]

[Text] QUESTION—Why is the family reunification of Ethiopian Jews taking so long?

ANSWER—I think we have to have some kind of (background). There has been some unnecessary confusion created about this concept of family reunification.

Before the introduction of Christianity, the beliefs of people in Ethiopia and also southern Arabia were anchored in the Tora. Then Christianity and Islam became the dominant faiths in Ethiopia and Judaism was marginalized.

Later on, the question of the Jews in Ethiopia was raised again, because someone had the idea that the Jews in Ethiopia were actually the children of a lost son of Israel. Until very recently, no Israeli experts and no Ethiopian experts accepted the Falashas as being Jews. The belief was that the Falashas were the remnants of the pre-Christian era in Ethiopia, that these were ethnic Ethiopians who had once adopted Judaism, so they were not ethnically Jews. If we subscribe to this concept, it means that the entire Northern Ethiopia were once Jews.

One common element among Ethiopians is the positive attitude and affection that Ethiopians have for Israel. All the Christians in our country are absolutely sympathetic to Judaism and Israel, and in fact say the two communities have the same God—the God of Israel, Yisrael Amlak in Amharic.

So as the result of research done by some individual, suddenly one has come to believe that the Falashas are ethnically Jews. And the Jewish community accepted them and there was the movement to relocate the Falashas back to Israel.

When we first came to power, this problem was discussed at a high level. We said we really do not care if Israel considers the Falashas as ethnic Jews. And we said then the Ethiopians are free to settle where they want—after all, there are 80,000 Ethiopians in Saudi Arabia and tens of thousands in Western countries. As a matter of fact, this could strengthen or cement relations between Ethiopia and Israel.

So we gave our Israeli brothers a signal. They requested whether they could come over and pay the Falashas a visit and we told them, yes, they could. They wanted to be allowed to provide some assistance in setting up some economic and cultural facilities in Falasha country, well, we told them yes, you could. They came, and at that time they inculcated in the mind of the Falashas that they were in fact ethnic Jews. And this led to a serious

problem between the Falashas and the local government. We asked them to please refrain from such acts.

Even then, we did not slam the door against the idea of immigration for these people who believed that they were Jews; they are free to do so. In fact we facilitated their relocation to Israel, without making much noise, on the basis of contacts and cooperation between our security service and its Israeli counterparts. And it was actually we who started this idea. Many Falashas made it to Israel.

In the meantime, fighting in the north assumed very threatening proportions, and this was coupled with a serious drought, and the bandits lured many people from the border communities to go to Sudan under the pretext that there were relief goods waiting for them in Sudan. The whole objective of the bandits was to create a social base in the Sudan from which to recruit fighters. And then as a result of the collusion of the Israeli, Sudanese and American secret services, the notorious Operation Moses was mounted to relocate the Falashas forcefully.

It was the very first time that the Ethiopian people were angry at the Israelis. Why on earth would Israel, in collusion with some Arab country, mount this operation and smuggle Ethiopians out of their country to Israel. In particular, we were angry about the timing, when we were grappling against the Arab forces. But we said that we should play it cool, and not harbor feelings about it, because neither Ethiopia nor Israel would stand to benefit from the situation. We decided to let bygones be bygones.

So you see, the question of family reunification is intimately linked with Operation Moses. Who was the first to have wrenched people away from their families? It was Operation Moses. The American Jews say "We have to encourage Ethiopian Jews to go to Israel, as we are encouraging Jews from the Soviet Union and other parts of the world." Well, whether these people are Jews or not is an entirely different question.

So in order not to whip up the thing, to make it convenient raw material for the Arab media, we thought that we should play it cool, proceed very calmly. It was we who suggested that we should give the whole thing the cover of family reunification. So it was no accord or agreement, but there was an understanding and consensus between us and Israel on this issue.

Then we requested that the Israeli officials give us a list of the prospective immigrants to Israel. And we also worked out the formality by which the exit of these people could be facilitated both by our security people and their Israeli counterparts. It was working quite smoothly, an unprecedented number of Falashas were going to Israel without any difficulty.

In the meantime, American Jews came to Ethiopia and changed this concept of family reunification. They came here with money, and they hired people of dubious standing in our country who would go to Falasha country and recruit people who would like to go to Israel without

going into the real specifics. And in the process they recruited people who were both Falashas and non-Falashas.

This led to the huge influx of people from the north to Addis Ababa. Many of them were peasants who simply abandoned their work and abandoned their family; there were people who were given money to come over here. This has led to a strained situation here. At last we had to send people to Israel to find out exactly what the Israelis want. If they really want to have Falashas or Ethiopians, non-Falashas—what exactly did they want to have in their country in terms of immigrants.

The Israeli officials told us that this was not of their making, it was the American Jews who created this confusion. What we decided was to urge the American Jews not to interfere. Through our discussions on several occasions, a mechanism has been set up to facilitate the migration. So now a process has been set up to implement the program. What we are doing in concrete terms is the screening of the people who are considered as Falashas, to determine who is Falasha, and which of these would like to go to Israel, and which to some other country.

Q—The Ethiopian government itself is doing that?

A—We have set up a national screening committee, and when Mr. Lubrani (Uri Lubrani, the prime minister's special emissary to Ethiopia) came here, we extensively exchanged views on this.

There is one question that remains unanswered: Whether the Israelis want exclusively Falashas or Ethiopians as such? We asked this; no clear answer has yet been forthcoming.

... We are not clear as to what the American Jews want, what their interest is in this. It is tragic to note that in spite of the good attitude and the positive steps we have taken to facilitate the migration of the Falashas, we have become the target of scathing criticism of the American Jewish media and the Israeli media.

The other important question is what is the situation of the Falashas in Israel now as compared to the Jews who came from the Soviet Union and from other European countries? We note that there are Falashas who came from Ethiopia years ago; still they find themselves in camps... and are unemployed. And now we are swelling that number. We warn you that this will bring a great social upheaval to Israel. This could be, in the long run, a serious problem for Israeli society, and the repercussion might be that it could destroy the positive attitude that Ethiopians traditionally have had towards Israel.

Q—But you know how important family is for Ethiopians. Right now in Israel, every family is split. Israel feels that it would be easier to absorb 5,000 complete families than to deal with families that are broken.

A—The Israelis do not seem to have a clear concept of which members of the family they want. So far, they have given us forms for only 300 people. Those 300

people are already in Israel, and they don't have another list. But still, there is this unchecked uproar.

As far as we are concerned, if they want people, we are ready, even outside the parameters of family reunification, but under its umbrella, to encourage as many people as want to go to Israel. But I am afraid we do not have a counterpart in Israel to work with us towards this ideal.

Q—Wasn't progress made during meetings with the Lubrani delegation?

A—The response to that is still pending. There is no ambassador here at present in the Israeli Embassy. When we were in the wilderness, before we renewed relations with Israel, there was pressure from Israel, "Why don't we set up an embassy?"

We were almost pestered by telephone calls—sometimes, when I was visiting foreign countries, we would receive telephone calls from Israelis. So after 18 years we did restore diplomatic relations. We have an embassy in Tel Aviv...but there is no Israeli (ambassador) here in Addis.

We are at our wit's end. I am afraid that the Israelis we are dealing with now are not the same as the Israelis we dealt with in the past. In those days, together, we achieved so many things. So I feel there is some problem, particularly with your foreign office. We doubt if there is a full comprehension among the Israelis of the positive attitude which Ethiopia has towards Israel. We are 52 million Ethiopians, and all of us are ready to work together with Israel. There is a psychological preparedness on the part of the Ethiopian people to stand side by side with Israel. The fact that some 15,000 Falashas leave for Israel does not affect the demographics of Ethiopia; we do not have a population shortage. So in this we see an unnecessary and artificial problem.

Q—Was the stoppage of immigration caused by a specific demand which Israel failed to meet?

A—There is an ugly allegation made by the American media that Ethiopia had held up the Falashas from going to Israel because Israel has not been forthcoming with arms, and is holding them hostage. This is utterly absurd. My government has seen to it that as many Falashas that wanted to go to Israel could go, even in those days when we did not have diplomatic relations.

The Israeli-Ethiopian cooperation must be viewed not only within the parameters of this single issue. In this regard, we exchanged a series of views with Israel on the government level to bring about economic cooperation and trade links, and cooperation in the field of science and technology, and to bring about cooperation on our common security, and to identify exactly items or areas Israel wants from Ethiopia and what Israel can send to Ethiopia in exchange.

Q—Do you understand that our whole nation is based on the return of the Jews to Zion?

A—I don't know if you know what the Ethiopian people have done, what they have contributed towards the realization of the millennial aspirations of the Jewish people, the restoration of the State of Israel. You probably know that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir was in Ethiopia as a prisoner. So it was our people who facilitated his escape from the northern part of our country, from Eritrea, which was under British rule at the time. And there are many who benefited from this assistance which Ethiopia provided.

This is a time when the Arabs, encouraged by the oil bonanza, are trying to destabilize Ethiopia—and if possible also Israel, although they know very well that Israel is strong and will not allow that to happen.

We feel that this is the time for the two countries to join hands, and perhaps also for the Israeli scientific and technological know-how and finance to come here, and if that is not forthcoming from Israel, perhaps from Jewish sources—for Jewish know-how and capital to come here and develop this country together for our common interest.

It is sad to note that the West provided arms to Iraq, which is now challenging it. It is not in the interest of Israel to see Ethiopia fall or break up. This is a time when the Islamic world is being swept by fundamentalism, which is the ultimate danger. And now there is the new danger emerging from Gulf Crisis. Which of the countries on the Red Sea would take the brunt end of this? What the Israelis should realize is that we are not requesting any favors from Israel. What we are doing is urging Israel to wake up.

Rebel Commentary

EA1311105090 (*Clandestine Voice of Ethiopia on the Path to Democracy in Amharic* 0300 GMT 13 Nov 90)

[Text] The leader of the fascist government has given a press statement to THE JERUSALEM POST, an Israeli newspaper, on Ethiopian-Israeli relations. Mengistu Haile-Mariam made the statement last Saturday, 10 November 1990. In the statement he again indicated that the Eritrean People's Liberation Front and Tigray People's Liberation Front were getting support from Iraq and Libya. Based on this, the colonel suggested that Ethiopian-Israeli relations should be further strengthened to quell these forces, and that the two countries should enter a military pact. In addition, he further stated that, at the moment, Israel has stopped supporting Ethiopia and that Israel does not fully understand the problems Ethiopia is facing today. He also denied that Israel gives any military assistance to Ethiopia, saying that this was a rumor spread by (some Arab) countries. THE JERUSALEM POST reported.

In the same statement Mengistu Haile-Mariam tried to justify the suppression of democratic rights and human rights by giving the war to safeguard the country's sovereignty as the main reason for such suppressions. He

also mixed up these issues with the war he has waged in the name of the country's unity [words indistinct].

Kenya

Vice President Meets U.S. Representatives

EA1211200690 *Nairobi KNA in English* 1727 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 12 Nov—The vice-president [as received] and minister for finance, Prof Saitoti, said today that the Government of Kenya is democratic and not a repressive one. Prof Saitoti, who was addressing some U.S. senators and representatives visiting Kenya in his office, said that Kenya is not a dictatorship and that basic freedoms of the individual including the worship, press and liberty of the individuals were respected.

He said that the attitude of the government is not to muzzle people for holding different views in variance of the government views. However, the vice-president stressed that the government would not take a neutral stand with a few subversives who want to cause change through bloodshed. The vice-president said that no government, even the well-known Western powers, would stand those out to destabilise their government and cause chaos.

Prof Saitoti said that the Government of Kenya was not formed by rigid people with devilish instincts, as depicted by our enemies overseas. He said that President Daniel arap Moi is a statesman with the welfare of all Kenyans at heart. His government is not a repressive one and about a year back the president released all detainees and declared a presidential amnesty to all political refugees.

The vice-president underlined that the president and the government do not lavish in locking people behind bars. He said that the government was committed to forge one nation that will take care of all Kenyans without discrimination.

The vice-president hailed the friendly long-standing ties between Kenya and the U.S. and said that the two countries should not allow anyone to drive a wedge between the two nations. He said that the government will take necessary reforms that would benefit Kenyans but not at the pressure of whims of outside powers. [passage omitted]

Tanzania

President Mwinyi Makes Cabinet Announcement

EA0911214590 *Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili* 1450 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Announcement by President Ali Hassan Mwinyi at the State House, Dar es Salaam—live]

[Excerpts] First of all, let me take this opportunity to thank you, the media in the country, for the great job you have done. [passage omitted]

This time we have made minor changes and these changes are due to our experience over the past five years. Throughout that period we strove to make the Council of Ministers as small as possible so as to avoid unnecessary expenses. Experience has taught us many things. We burdened some ministries with too much work. As a result, these ministries ran into problems and in trying to resolve them, they failed to perform.

For example, the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources, and Tourism—land had given us a big headache and made problems for leaders in that ministry, thus precluding them from attending to tourism and natural resources. We have therefore split some ministries. Another such ministry is the Ministry of Communications, Transport, and Works. We realized that works—I mean road construction—had not been properly attended to. For many years we had been making huge budget allocations for the construction of our roads. We know what happened, poor red laterite roads which remained ungraded. At the end of the year, you are told funds are exhausted and that is why the roads were not repaired. [passage omitted]

That is why we have this time decided to split the ministry into the Ministry of Communications and Transport and the Ministry of Works, so that emphasis is placed on road construction and funds allocated for that purpose are not utilized elsewhere.

Third, we have realized we must move with the times. For example, here in Tanzania we talk of protecting the environment, but not enough is being done. This time we have formed a ministry and its work will be to give priority to environmental protection. [passage omitted]

As you all know, we are about to enter the 21st century, and in that century science and technology will play a significant role in development. We have therefore decided to prepare for that new era—the 21st century. We shall have to do that properly, so as a prelude we must prepare our youths for the new era by giving them a proper education in science and technology, which they will apply to effect our progress. We have therefore formed a special ministry to attend to those issues.

Another thing is that at the beginning of the second phase government there was the post of deputy premier. We debated it in parliament and concluded we had violated the Constitution. Then there was another motion according to which we had not violated the Constitution. The deputy premier is first a minister and then he is given the extra post. In order to remove the problem, the post has never been filled since the departure of Ahmad Salim. I prefer not to have the post unless the need arises for it and the Constitution says so. If the Constitution makes no provision for the post, then we do not need it. My cabinet will therefore be as follows:

1. President	Ali Hassan Mwinyi
Chairman of planning will be President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.	
Ministers of state in the President's Office in charge of three ministries:	
Minister of State for Planning	Kighoma Malima
Minister of State for the Civil Service	Fatumah Said Ali
Minister of State for Defense	Amrani Mayagila
Assisting Defense Minister President Ali Hassan Mwinyi	
2. Office of Prime Minister and First Vice President	John Malecela:
Minister of State	Edward Lowassa
3. Office of Second Vice President	Dr. Salmin Amour:
Minister of State	vacant.
4. Ministers without portfolios	Rashidi Mfaume Kawawa, Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM] deputy chairman; Horace Kolimba, CCM secretary general
5. Minister of Regional Administration and Local Government	Joseph Warioba
6. Minister of Finance	Stephen Kibona
7. Minister of Works	Nalaila Kiula
8. Minister of Communications and Transport	Jackson Makweta
9. Minister of Agriculture, Livestock Development, and Cooperatives	Anna Abdullah
10. Minister of Industries and Trade	Cleopa Msuya
11. Minister of Water, Energy, and Minerals	Jakaya Kikwete
12. Minister of Tourism, Natural Resources, and Environment	Abubakar Mgumia
13. Minister of Education and Culture	Charles Kabeho
14. Minister of Lands, Housing, and Urban Development	Marcelino Komanya
15. Minister of Health	Prof. Philemon Sarungi
16. Minister of Information and Broadcasting	Ben Mkapa
17. Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations	Ahmad Hasan Diria
18. Minister of Science, Technology, and Higher Education	Dr. Shija; MP, Sengerema
19. Minister of Interior	Augustine Mrema
20. Minister of Labor and Youth Development	Joseph Rwegasira
21. Minister of Social Development, and Women, and Development	Anna Makinda

These are our 18 ministries, as a matter of fact there are 17 [as heard] ministries if you exclude the three ministries under the presidency. Those are the ministries and their ministers. That is my cabinet at this time.

We want to cut the number of deputy ministers, but if extra posts are needed we will consider the matter. We have appointed deputy ministers to ministries in accordance with the importance and size of those ministries. They are as follows

1. Ministry of Regional Administration and Local Government	Emmanuel Mwambulukutu
2. Ministry of Agriculture	Frederick Sumaye
3. Ministry of Defense and National Service	Ernest Nyanda
4. Ministry of Finance	Juma Hamad Omar
5. Ministry of Industries and Trade	Prof. Nicas Mahinda
6. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Abdurahman Kinana
7. Ministry of Interior	Simai Pandu Makame

I have decided we must have those. We shall see if the need arises for more. This will become clear after we start working. But the aim or goal of our work will be to revive the economy. We must direct all our energies in that direction. There are certain important issues. They are like ingredients. They are agriculture, railways, [word indistinct], energy, water, and social services, because development is for the people. And it is up to the people themselves to promote them. Those are the four [as heard] areas we must serve with all our strength. This Council of Ministers is expected to implement these objectives. Thank you.

Uganda

NRM on Allegations of Involvement in Rwanda

EA0811202490 Kampala Domestic Service
in English 1400 GMT 8 Nov 90

[Text] The vice chairman of the National Resistance Movement [NRM] has dismissed as baseless, false, and unfortunate allegations that the National Resistance Army [NRA] is involved in the Rwanda conflict. He told the Zairian ambassador to Uganda, Mr. Nzapa Kengo, who called on him at his office in Kampala, that the NRA is not, and has never, and does not intend to involve itself in the Rwanda conflict. He stressed that if the NRA got involved at any one stage, the military situation would have been very different. He reaffirmed that the commitment of the NRM administration to the peaceful political settlement of the Rwandese refugees' problem within a regional framework. The NRM vice chairman told ambassador Kengo that the problem of Rwandese refugees who are not only in Uganda but almost in all countries in eastern Africa, as well as in some countries in Europe, can be settled politically after thorough discussions of the matter with all the parties

concerned. The deputy chief of the NRM reiterated the movement's practical commitment to the principle of good neighborliness, in which spirit, he said, Uganda and Zaire have held several border meetings resulting in greater understanding, cooperation and improved security along the common border.

Ambassador Nzapa Kengo briefed the NRM vice chairman on Zaire's mediation efforts in the Rwanda conflict, adding that the Uganda, Zaire, and Burundi tripartite national cease-fire monitoring team agreed upon at Gbadolite presidents' meeting in Zaire on 26 October this year has now assembled in Goma in Zaire.

Mr. Kengo assured the NRM vice chairman that press allegations to the effect that Zaire has up to 5,000 troops in Rwanda fighting the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front alongside government troops are not true. Ambassador Kengo emphatically said that there are no longer any Zairian troops in Rwanda and his country is committed to the peaceful solution of the conflict.

Official Discusses Rwanda With Soviet Envoy

EA1011154990 Kampala Domestic Service
in English 1900 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Uganda, Mr. Stanislav Semenenko, has delivered the Soviet Parliament's appeal for a total ban on nuclear testing to the vice chairman of the National Resistance Movement [NRM], Moses Kikongo. The appeal, addressed to all parliaments in the world, was adopted as a resolution by the Supreme Soviet on 9 October. The resolution appeals to all parliaments to clearly take a stand in favor of general and complete renunciation of nuclear testing. Ambassador Semenenko said the appeal once again draws the attention of the world to the urgent necessity to renounce all nuclear testing as a step towards strengthening the regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons and their elimination towards a nuclear-free world. Kikongo said the National Resistance Council will study it and come up with proposals.

In an exchange of ideas on the Rwanda crisis, Kikongo reiterated that the NRM administration has no ill intentions towards any of its neighbors. He clarified that although some elements in the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front, RPF, fighting the Rwanda Government had at one stage been in Uganda's Armed Forces, they opted to do so after deserting the army on their own and without the knowledge of the NRM administration or any assistance from the National Resistance Army.

The meeting was also attended by a member of the NRC and director of legal affairs in the NRM secretariat, Mr. (Yosam Tumwesigye).

President Retires Non-Ugandan Military Personnel

*EA1111122090 Kampala Domestic Service
in English 1000 GMT 11 Nov 90*

[Text] This is to inform the public that in exercise of powers conferred upon the president by Article 78 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and after consultations with the Army Council, President Yoweri Museveni has retired with immediate effect all officers and men of the NRA [National Resistance Army] who are not citizens of Uganda. The army commander is to set up a technical committee of the NRA which will liaise with the attorney general in the task of identifying the aforementioned noncitizens.

This long-standing issue has been finally precipitated by the recent mass desertion of Rwandese nationals from the NRA. These people had joined the NRA as a consequence of their long stay here as well as the internal civil strife that has characterized Uganda for the past 25 years. All those persons so retired but who did not commit mistakes in the duration of their service will get terminal benefits due to them.

Security Meeting With Rwanda Held in Kabale

*EA1211221890 Kampala Domestic Service
in English 1700 GMT 12 Nov 90*

[Text] The NRA [National Resistance Army] divisional commander, western, Lieutenant Colonel (Bernard

Mokundi), has reiterated that Uganda has never aided or provided any logistical support to the rebel Rwandese Patriotic Front, RPF, in their current major activities against their country.

The denial came during a joint security meeting between senior army commanders from Rwanda and Uganda held in Kabale over the weekend. It was also attended by the district administrators of Kabale, Richard Barigayomwe, of Bushenyi, Mr. (Kikuri), and of Mbarara, Mr. (Henry Rijemera). The Kabale meeting is a follow-up of an interstate (?military) meeting held in Kampala between 22 and 25 October 1990 which mutually agreed to set up a monitoring team composed of 15 senior NRA officers and 15 Rwandese to be stationed at Ruhama, (?Rubaare), Gatuna, Njungamo, and Kamuganguzi.

Commenting on the violation of Uganda's air space and harassment of Uganda citizens on the border, the leader of the Rwandese six-man delegation, Lieutenant Colonel (Mwanyengago), regretted the incidents, saying they were isolated unfortunate incidents by individual elements within the Rwandese Army. He promised investigation of these acts. He said Rwanda was at war with rebels and not with Uganda. Both sides agreed to cooperate, in order to facilitate the successful work of the joint monitoring team.

Government/ANC Joint Working Group Meets 9 Nov

*MB0911140490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1341 GMT 9 Nov 90*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 9 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress]/Government Joint Working Group met in Pretoria on Friday but in terms of the Pretoria Minute no confirmation or information of the meeting was released by either side.

Following Friday's release of guidelines for the pardon or indemnity of people guilty of political crimes, the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles is expected to be high on the agenda.

The speed at which the next phase of the return and release programme progresses will hinge on the outcome of the group's discussion at the latest meeting.

The ANC delegation was headed by the chief of staff of the ANC's armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], Mr. Chris Hani. The rest of the team comprises Mr. Thabo Mbeki, Mr. Jacob Zuma, Mr. Joe Nhlanhla, Dr. Pallo Jordan, Mr. Joe Modise and Mr. Matthew Phosa.

The government team consists of Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, Deputy Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, Security Police General B.J. Beukes, Mr. Johan Geyser of the Justice Department, Dr. H.P. Fourie of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Mr. M. Spaarwater of the National Intelligence Service.

In terms of the Pretoria Minute signed by the government and the ANC no details, not even confirmation of Joint Working Group meetings need be released to the public or the press.

De Klerk Urges Support for Population Control

*MB1211162090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1500 GMT 12 Nov 90*

[Text] The state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, has appealed to leaders at all levels in South Africa to support the population development program.

Opening a population growth symposium for business leaders at Midrand, President de Klerk said the reduction of the population growth rate was one of the most important prerequisites for the creation of prosperity in this country. He said the new South Africa would not necessarily mean prosperity for all. This would have to be worked for.

President de Klerk said the standard of living could be raised only through education, training, and the creation of equal opportunities.

British Delegation 'Impressed', 'Appalled'

*MB0911192090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1710 GMT 9 Nov 90*

[By Lew Elias]

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 9 SAPA—The British Foreign Affairs Committee delegation, who spent six days in South Africa as part of an almost three-week fact finding mission in the southern African region, were both impressed at the desire for a democratic solution to South Africa's problems and appalled at the level of social and economic erosion.

The group toured the country and interviewed a wide range of South African politicians, academics, business and church leaders as well as various other opinion makers and numerous people at grassroots level. The delegation was speaking at a press conference at Jan Smuts Airport, outside Johannesburg, prior to their return to Britain on Friday night.

Committee chairman, Conservative Party MP [Member of Parliament] David Howell, said his group still was to hold an informal meeting with Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who is currently in London, before sitting down and evaluating all that was experienced on the party's eight nation tour. It was only after this that recommendations for possible changes to British policy for the southern African region could be suggested. This would take some weeks or months, he added.

Mr. Howell said the committee had formed some preliminary impressions from the tour. Most notable of these was the "widespread commitment" to working towards a new democratic structure and the feeling of all those concerned, both black and white, that they were "all South Africans."

He said the only people seemingly against a unitary democratic South Africa were representatives of the Conservative Party who did not share that impression. "The long term prospect, and I stress long term, for a new and prospering South Africa...is a good one," he said, adding the party was awed by the "colossal obstacles that lie in the path of the reconstituted goal for a new South Africa."

Despite the overriding air of optimism some of the social and economic conditions seen in the country were among the worst the delegation had ever seen.

He said solutions still had to be found for the demographic problems of the great number of people who had no education and those coming to the built up areas. Almost all the people the party met, including ANC [African National Congress] deputy leader Nelson Mandela who the group met shortly after his return from Europe and Asia on Friday, felt that any sort of aid that would help social upliftment was welcome and would not be regarded as a breach of sanctions agreements.

Labour MP Denis Canavan said he did not completely trust the South African Government, but the group had been impressed by the general movement away from apartheid in the country.

"Six months ago we could not have spoken as openly and freely to many of the people we met on our visit and we are already taking this for granted and asking where we go from here," delegation member Ted Rowlands said.

He added some of the movement towards a new dispensation was indeed irreversible. "It is impossible to envisage everything being put back in the box," Mr. Howell said, adding the change in South Africa was similar to that which is taking place in Eastern Europe.

The committee would most probably make some changes in British aid priorities as there were enormous economic problems in the region which had to be faced. The committee felt that a South Africa without apartheid and International Monetary Fund restrictions would be able to help its neighbours.

Mr. Rowlands praised what was being done to help impoverished communities, such as squatters, with various forms of aid from British diplomatic staff in South Africa. He added squatter settlements the delegation saw in South Africa were amongst the worst in the world.

Michael Welsh said it was a lack of money that was crippling South Africa. "If money comes in, it is unthinkable what could happen here." [sentence as received]

Denis Powell, the Conservative MP who became an Inkatha member in Durban during his meeting with the organisation, said he was absolutely convinced that nothing was going to happen "without democracy and free enterprise. The days of white parties and black parties are past and it is now time that parties are open to all regardless of colour and creed," he said.

The group, during its the six-day tour of South Africa, held meetings with representatives of almost the entire spectrum of "who's who" in politics.

Mandela Announces Tambo To Return 14 Dec

*MB1011123690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1152 GMT 10 Nov 90*

[By Thami Mkhwanazi]

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 10 SAPA—The president of the African National Conference [ANC] Oliver Tambo will return to South Africa on December 14—after three decades in exile.

This was announced by ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela during a press conference at his Soweto home on Saturday—a day after his arrival from his fourth overseas trip since his release from prison early this year. Mr. Mandela said the purpose of Mr. Tambo's visit was to attend the ANC's national consultative conference in

December. The conference, probably to be held two days after Mr. Tambo's arrival, will be the first since inside the country in 30 years.

Mr. Mandela said he met Mr. Tambo during his recent trip to the east, Australia, Britain and France. He said the ANC president had made an encouraging recovery and that he (Mr. Tambo) would visit some African states on Wednesday. "His visit will be an excitement for the organisation and the masses", Mr. Mandela said.

He also announced that he would meet the State President Mr. F.W. de Klerk on November 27 during which, he said, they would hopefully "cover a number of issues" particular the question of the violence in the country. The meeting, he said, was at Mr. de Klerk's request. "Mr. de Klerk has pre-empted me because I had planned to meet him soon in order to avail the third summit between between the government and the ANC," he said.

Mr. Mandela reiterated his organisation's commitment to end the violence. He said in addition to the Joint ANC/Inkatha Central Committee on violence, the ANC had set up sub-committee of the NEC [National Executive Committee] which included Mr. Thabo Mbeki, Mr. Jacob Zuma, Mr. John Nkadimeng and Mrs. Getrude Shope.

"We cannot afford to see South Africa sliding into a Lebanon," he said.

He said a recent meeting between the ANC and Inkatha on the violence was mutually postponed by both parties. His organisation, he said, was presently addressing the issue of the recent clashes between ANC and Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] supporters in Bekkersdal.

Replying to a question on the widely-reported ANC-instigated mass action that had caused alarm in the government, Mr. Mandela reiterated the call for the intensification of mass action, saying unless there was a mechanism to enable the voteless masses to air their views, mass action was bound to continue. "Mass action is a fundamental principle of democracy to be enjoyed by all, even those with the vote." This principle, he argued, was exercised in many parts of the world, including Britain and the United States.

"Mass action had occurred in those countries, yet there was no hue and cry. Replying to a question he confirmed he had conveyed his call for mass action through his wife, Winnie. The ANC leader said the government should be held responsible for chaotic consequences of recent mass action.

On having been unable to secure aid from Japan, Mr. Mandela said the problems explained by Japan for their failure to assist the ANC were reasonable and acceptable to his organisation.

He argued, on the retention of sanctions: "Sanctions will remain in place because we are still far from obtaining the objectives for which they were imposed."

He reiterated that certain sectors of the economy—the mines, financial institutions and monopolies—would be nationalised. He said, however, the economy clause of the Freedom Charter was made many years ago and the ANC would not be dogmatic about it. His organisation, he said, would be prepared to listen to debates about an alternative to nationalisation. He had already discussed the subject with business, but the business sector, he said, did not seem to have an alternative.

"If anybody is able to show us a more viable alternative to nationalisation, we shall abandon it," he added. He argued that there were sectors of the economy which had been nationalised and yet the exercise had caused no alarm.

Asked if his organisation was prepared to share power with other parties, Mr. Mandela said: "Although the ANC and the government were the main actors in the negotiation process, all other organisations, even if they do not have the resources we command, should be involved in this process."

One-man-one-vote, he argued, would set aside the distinction between the government and the ANC. Asked if the ANC would enter into a coalition government with another party, he said if the people favoured a coalition then their democratic view would hold.

Mandela Says Homelands Back National Congress

MB1111163090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1612 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Thohoyandou Nov 11 SAPA—Three "independent" states—Transkei, Ciskei and Venda—were prepared to throw in their lot with the African National Congress [ANC] and this meant the collapse of apartheid, ANC Deputy President Mr. Nelson Mandela said on Sunday.

Addressing a crowd of about 20,000 at a Congress of SA [South African] Trade Unions [COSATU] rally in Thohoyandou, he appealed for people to unite and speak with one voice.

"We should forget about the past differences and unite. The ANC has decided to call upon homeland leaders to rally behind it."

Venda military leader Brigadier Gabriel Ramushwana and other leaders had sincerely accepted the offer to work with the ANC, Mr. Mandela said. He told the crowd his recent trip to the Far East and Asia had been successful. "I want to tell you the ANC is highly respected worldwide. We came back with our hands full. (ANC) President Oliver Tambo has done marvellous work. He and his National Executive Committee have raised the ANC to a level it never had before."

Mr. Tambo was due to spend seven days in Lusaka with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda and would arrive in SA [South Africa] on December 14 for the ANC consultative conference, Mr. Mandela said.

He appealed to the Pan-Africanist Congress, the Azanian People's Organisation and Inkatha to forget the past and accept the hand of friendship.

"We are aware our people are clashing with others, but we should forget about the past differences and work as a united force to destroy the apartheid regime." The ANC had reached the last mile of the struggle, which was going to be very difficult, Mr. Mandela said. He was accompanied into the stadium by Brig. Ramushwana, ANC Information and Publicity head Mr. Pallo Jordan, COSATU's Mr. Jay Naidoo and other regional ANC and union personnel.

SACP's Kasrils Discusses Operation Vula

MB0911130390 Johannesburg NEW NATION
in English 9-15 Nov 90 p 1

[Unattributed Article: "Voice From the Underground"]

[Text] Communist Party Internal Leadership Group member and former intelligence chief of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing, MK], Ronnie Kasrils, this week spoke exclusively to NEW NATION from the underground.

Giving a rare interview since he went underground after police uncovered the Operation Vula project three months ago, Kasrils said he would not leave the country unless told to do so by the leaders of the organisation.

Speaking on a wide range of issues, he vehemently denied allegations of the high life by those involved in Operation Vula.

"My plans now, simply, are to stay in my country until we have real liberation. I have been out since 1963 and I was beginning to enjoy my stay back when the regime broke faith of having given indemnity to Mac Maharaj, Chris Hani and myself.

"There is no way I am going to leave this country unless the ANC [African National Congress] took the decision. Fortunately, they haven't taken it and here I am."

Kasrils looked relaxed, confident and very different from the man who took part in the SA Communist Party [SACP] launch at the FNB Stadium in July and the COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] march in Johannesburg soon after.

Speaking about weekend reports alleging the infiltration of moles into the ranks of the South African security police, he said many policemen were flocking to join the ANC. This was because they realised the popular support of the ANC and knew that the government would be replaced by a popularly elected one.

"Police and the government have always boasted about their ability to infiltrate the ANC, SACP, UDF [United Democratic Front] and COSATU. So we have also paid attention to the important task of knowing the plans of our opponents and we haven't done badly," said Kasrils.

Many policemen were joining the ANC to make amends because of past sins by giving assistance to the ANC in many forms "particularly now, when a lot of the rats are having to leave a sinking ship," he said.

The ANC's involvement in negotiations with the government did not mean that the underground structures had to be dissolved.

The government had not dissolved its own underground structures such as the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau], the death squads and vigilantes.

"We have painstakingly and under difficult conditions and obstacles built an underground that constitutes the foundation for MK combatants. These structures exist throughout the country.

"Since February this year, the ANC announced to all its internal underground structures to remain in place and for comrades not to expose themselves. Our comrades are still holding their positions," said Kasrils.

The detentions of ANC leaders of Operation Vula, the torture of activists held under Section 29 and the violence unleashed on people on the Reef had, on several occasions, brought talks close to collapse.

"The government has created grave doubts about its particular seriousness and integrity. Our leadership has come very close to considering breaking off the negotiations because of such instances as the arrest and detentions of comrades."

He dismissed allegations of high living by those involved in Vula: "In many instances we hardly had enough furniture in some of the 'safe houses' to hold meetings. We did not even have a kettle to boil water and had to settle for a pot. [no closing quotation as published]

According to Kasrils, suggestions that one of the people implicated in Vula, named only as Moshai, was responsible for the handling and infiltration of moles into the security police was inaccurate.

Bophuthatswana 'Crackdown' on ANC Over 'Plot'

*MB1211104190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0957 GMT 12 Nov 90*

[Text] Mmabatho Nov 12 SAPA—The Bophuthatswana Government has launched a nationwide crackdown on the African National Congress [ANC] "following the unearthing of evidence of a plot to assassinate President Lucas Mangope."

By early Monday morning Bophuthatswana police had detained a "number" of ANC members and members of organisations affiliated to the ANC, the government said in a media release.

In a brief statement on Monday morning, the commissioner of the Bophuthatswana police, Major-General P J Seleke, declined to specify the number of detentions so

far. He added, however, police were continuing the action and further arrests were imminent.

"This is a police action, based on reliable evidence, to prevent the unconstitutional destabilising of the state as well as to protect the life of the head of state," Gen. Seleke said, according to the media release.

A statement by President Mangope released at the same time said the Bophuthatswana Government had now become aware that elements of the ANC and its affiliates were conspiring actively to overthrow the government and that this conspiracy included plans to assassinate him (President Mangope). "In the interests of all, the values of democracy that we hold dear and in discharging its responsibility to the people of this progressive state, the Government of Bophuthatswana regrettably has no alternative but to take steps to neutralise this despicable and unconstitutional threat," President Mangope said.

He said the Government of Bophuthatswana had always prided itself on its democratic constitution and the general progressiveness of the country. In all its actions, the government had always been guided by the interests of the people, so much so that he was on record in wishing for a loyal opposition in the parliament of Bophuthatswana.

He said that even when the ANC was banned in South Africa, Bophuthatswana had held true to its democratic principles and did not outlaw the ANC. "However for some time now the ANC and its affiliates have become increasingly hostile to the Republic of Bophuthatswana," President Mangope said.

"The transmissions of Radio Freedom and Radio Zambia have increasingly incited the people of Bophuthatswana to reject their lawful, democratically elected government. Pamphlets issued by the ANC and its affiliates are being distributed in ever larger numbers urging the people of Bophuthatswana to turn against the government, demolish the state and become part of South Africa again. Senior representatives of the ANC have become more vociferous in stating their opposition to the continued sovereign existence of the state of Bophuthatswana and a vicious slander campaign against the head of the state has been launched. The ANC has also been founding branch organisations in Bophuthatswana which are supporting all these actions," President Mangope said.

He said it was regrettable this vilification and political subversion of the government of Bophuthatswana had been taking place while the same government had been making efforts to open a dialogue with the ANC, "efforts which had met with no positive results as yet."

"This government has always maintained an open door policy in political matters. This has included the ANC and it still does so. However, the government is compelled to take action against members of this organisation. It hopes that the ANC will change its senseless

policies with regard to Bophuthatswana and follow the same path to the peaceful settling of differences as people of stature are now doing all over the world," President Mangope said.

ANC Replies

MB1211131090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1248 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 12 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC], reacting to allegations by the Bophuthatswana government on Monday that it had uncovered a plot to assassinate President Lucas Mangope, dismissed the independent homeland's claims as reckless and absurd.

"The arrest and detention of ANC members and other activists of the democratic movement, announced by the Bophuthatswana authorities this (Monday) morning, is but one more example of an unpopular regime trying to postpone its demise by repression," the ANC said in a statement to SAPA.

"The allegation that members of the ANC resident in Bophuthatswana were plotting to assassinate Dr Lucas Mangope are as reckless as they are absurd. The ANC repudiates these claims with the contempt they deserve," the statement added.

The ANC, "along with the majority of South Africans and the international community, has never recognised Bophuthatswana as separate and apart from the rest of South Africa. Dr Mangope's extravagant claims that 'Radio Freedom' is inciting the people to oppose the so-called sovereignty of Bophuthatswana is a deliberate misconstruction of a long-standing ANC policy with a view to lending credence to his allegations about a 'plot'," the statement said.

It added the ANC demanded the immediate and unconditional release of "all those who have been arrested and an end to the repression of the democratic movement in that part of our country."

Press Reviews on Current Problems, Issues

10 November

MB1011100890

[Editorial report]

THE CITIZEN

Inkatha Cannot Be 'Ignored'—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 8 November in a page 6 editorial notes that "the government, by making the ANC [African National Congress] its main negotiating partner in the run-up to the negotiations proper, has lowered Chief Buthelezi's status. Yet we believe that Inkatha cannot be ignored—indeed, it should be given the role of a main player as well." "We think Mr de Klerk would do the country a service by bringing Chief Buthelezi into the

negotiations in a prominent way now. The sooner it is shown that the negotiations are not going to be a cosy government-ANC twosome, the better the ANC and others will appreciate that a solution satisfactory to all sections of the population, Black and White, ANC and Inkatha, is imperative."

Randburg By-Election Shows NP 'Firmly in Control'—A page 6 editorial in THE CITIZEN on 9 November discusses the 7 November Randburg by-election, saying "the fact that 10,992 voted for the National Party [NP] shows that they do accept the changes" introduced by State President F.W. de Klerk "with such breathtaking speed." "The NP could also, on its Randburg showing, win a general election comfortably. However, we do not think that the NP in its moments of elation should become overconfident." "For the CP [Conservative Party], the result was a big disappointment. It did not achieve the kind of vote that would have enabled it to say the government had lost its constituency." "The National Party remains firmly in control, the CP is in no position to defeat it, and the reform process can go ahead without the Right being able to halt it."

12 November

MB1211114490

[Editorial report]

SUNDAY STAR

Economic 'Gloom' Lifting—The reduction in gasoline prices, coupled with the announcement of the Old Mutual/Urban Foundation plan to use provident fund and pension contributions for low-cost black housing are a few "dim lights" shining through the economic "gloom," says an editorial on page 14 of Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 11 November. The gasoline price drop could mean interest rates will be lowered ultimately, and the housing plan could trigger a housing boom, with resulting increases in jobs. With inventories reported at a very low level, businesses may have to place orders with manufacturers, also possibly spurring the economy. However, the editorial says, it must be recognised "that we're not out of the woods" and there are many possible "pitfalls" ahead. The paper concludes by saying it has been a "long time since any good news has appeared on the economic horizon," and such news might lead to the "confidence needed for an improvement in South Africa's financial fortunes."

SUNDAY TIMES

Mandela Fails to Lead ANC—An editorial on page 22 of Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 11 November says the African National Congress "increasingly displays a bankruptcy of policy, an inadequacy that is both intellectual and moral." The editorial continues, "At best it cannot adjust to the demands of a new situation and continues blindly to apply the techniques of confrontation and civil disorder which were devised to make the country ungovernable." Citing Communist

Party leader Moses Mayekiso's call for mass action to force the resignation of black officials, the editorial predicts the "ostensibly innocent 'mass action'" will be enforced "by gangs of township thugs." Black officials will be intimidated and killed, the paper says, and "sooner or later the police will be compelled to intervene," with "propagandists" ready to charge "police brutality." The paper says that many black people will suffer and the negotiation process will be damaged. The editorial concludes: That Nelson Mandela has returned home to endorse this march of folly is sad, but not surprising. He is not the man he seemed in February; surrounded by young communists like Mayekiso, he follows where he should lead."

BUSINESS DAY

'Social Contract' Concept's Place in New South Africa—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 12 November, in a page 4 editorial, says the concept of the social contract is "becoming a central one in the debate about the nature of a post-apartheid South Africa. The countries with which the social contract is associated—northern Europe along with Australia and New Zealand—are "encouraging models," the paper says, but warns the concept "cannot simply be implanted into any society with a guarantee of success." The editorial also says no "road to development" can guarantee that South Africa will become "a model of the welfare state paradise." The editorial goes on to say South Africa "contains the seeds and structures for the creation of a new, relatively harmonious society," and concludes "Our recent history shows, though, that if there is sufficient in a deal to advance the interests of all contending parties, an arrangement can be reached. A powerful incentive for South Africa to aim in this direction is, to coin a phrase, the ghastliness of the alternative."

SOWETAN

Force Will Not Work—Kragdadigheid—a show of force—will not work in resolving the problems in the Pretoria and Atteridgeville electricity crisis. So says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 12 November. "The refusal by residents to pay service charges stems from genuine grievances held by residents." The editorial goes on "Instead of heeding demands by residents, the authorities are using the jackboot." The paper says the problem must be laid at the government's doorstep. The editorial says the councils in the black townships were "doomed from the start." "Now that the Government appears to have abandoned apartheid, it should be scrapping these councils once and for all substituting them with non-racial ones."

BEELD

Schwarz's Appointment Proof of Irreversible Reform—"The appointment of a member of an opposition party, Mr. Harry Schwarz of the Democratic Party, as South Africa's ambassador to Washington is an interesting development," notes an editorial on page 8 of the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans of 6 November. "This is

the first time that a member of parliament from outside the National Party has been appointed to such a post." Mr. Schwarz, continues the paper, "is well equipped for Washington. He is a financial expert and ought to make an important contribution towards breaking down the sanctions wall around South Africa." "His appointment is further evidence that reform in South Africa is irreversible. That will carry weight in Washington."

Afrikaner Not To Blame for All Wrongs—"One of the most controversial happenings at this week's historic national conference of churches in South Africa was the public confession of guilt over apartheid by Professor Willie Jonker of Stellenbosch, on his and the Dutch Reformed Church's behalf," notes an editorial on page 12 of BEELD in Afrikaans of 8 November. "That the Dutch Reformed Church made its confession in such company speaks volumes for its convictions." "Nevertheless, we must guard against an exaggerated sense of guilt among Afrikaners and other whites, as though they alone are responsible for everything wrong in South Africa. That is totally incorrect."

ANC's Ideas Have Merit, But...—A second editorial on the same page refers to the African National Congress's [ANC] economic statement on the need for compulsory investments of billions of rands in social projects by pension funds and insurance companies: "The ANC's ideas are not wholly without merit, but then other factors will have to be borne in mind. It is vital that such investments really do promote social stability. But this is not possible while the ANC directs itself at destabilizing actions like rent boycotts and the destruction of existing government structures. Financial institutions will be skeptical about the value of compulsory investments in social projects against that background."

Randburg Result A Renewed Mandate For Reform—In a page 10 editorial the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans of 9 November declares: "Following the Conservative Party's [CP] massive effort, the Randburg by-election result cannot be interpreted as anything other than a renewed mandate for reform", adding that "the CP propaganda about the mandate that President De Klerk supposedly did not have is now as jaded as that party's policy of white domination. But there is also the danger that the CP will now be forced closer to a choice between a political party and a protest movement." "We sincerely hope that Dr. Treurnicht and his people will see the danger of the latter and remain on the path of peace and democracy."

ANC Threats Conflict With Spirit Of Negotiation—A second editorial on the same page of BEELD notes: "African National Congress [ANC] threats to destroy black and colored city councils are in direct conflict with the spirit of negotiation. As President de Klerk said night before last, boycotts and destabilization of orderly government are simply other forms of violence. An essential demand of successful reform is that it cannot be accompanied by chaos, as that will simply try sympathetic white attitudes to the point of rejection—which will also

endanger efforts towards peace." "Only naive people will pretend that the existing system of black councils is perfect." "But that is precisely why the government is prepared to negotiate new third-tier structures." "The more the ANC and its supporters are involved in destabilization, the more one is forced to ask whether they only excel at breaking down and not at anything constructive."

DIE BURGER

Mandela Is No 'Black Moses'—In his 'From My Political Pen' column in the Cape Town *DIE BURGER* in Afrikaans of 7 November, columnist Dawie writes: "In the space of a few months the stature of the once-mythical martyr Mandela has shrunk to that of a pedantic party politician; not in the least a black Moses who can lead his followers to the promised land of milk and honey." "Mr. Nelson Mandela's star is losing its sparkle, and with it the image of the African National Congress [ANC] is tarnishing in a way which was unthinkable a few months ago." He adds that "the tarnishing image of Mr. Mandela and the ANC abroad is a process which applies much deeper and more comprehensively at home. This is due to a number of factors. First, Mr. Mandela's lack of leadership is being exposed. He is driven from behind, unlike President de Klerk who leads from the front. He also has much less of a grip on his followers, particularly the radical youth." Dawie concludes that "in the negotiation process Mr. Mandela will in future come under greater pressure. President de Klerk emphasizes that the reform process is irreversible. The question is going to be asked of Mr. Mandela and the ANC: How irreversible is your commitment to a peaceful settlement and the ending of violence? These

days, even the ANC's reliability as a negotiating partner is being questioned. It remains to be seen how Mr. Mandela and his organization will react under the pressure that lies ahead."

TRANSVALER

Randburg A 'Historic Result'—In a comment on the National Party victory in the Randburg by-election, the Johannesburg *TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 8 November declares: "It was an historic election and an historic result." "For the state president the outcome must simply be a welcome gift. The NP built its campaign around Mr. de Klerk's reform initiatives. Voters were asked to vote for the issue and not the party. The answer was clear. Of equal significance is the powerful support of the overwhelmingly English-speaking voters." "And the Conservative Party? Having been so convincingly beaten in such favorable conditions of economic hardship, it will have to reconsider its actions."

VRYE WEEKBLAD

PAC Racism Cause For Concern—The Johannesburg *VRYE WEEKBLAD* in Afrikaans of 9 November says in a page 20 editorial: "The naked racism and the heavy-handed treatment of the press at the funeral of Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] leader Zeph Mothopeng last weekend ought to be a cause for concern to all South Africans. The more the PAC leaders try to explain and justify their favorite slogan of 'One settler, one bullet', the more it is being used by their supporters as the expression of naked hatred for white-skinned people." The paper continues: "It is equally disturbing that no respect was shown for the press at the funeral. The PAC and its followers must realise that, without a truly free press, there will never be true freedom and democracy in South Africa—neither for white, nor for black."

Angola

Tonha Urges Army To Wage 'Relentless Struggle'

*MB1011200490 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 10 Nov 90*

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel General Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale met with soldiers of the Southern Command and Chief of General Staff in Lubango today with whom he discussed the internal peace process, the government's plan of action, and the domestic and foreign policy of the People's Republic of Angola. Our correspondent Prazer dos Santos has more details about the meeting marking the 15th anniversary of our national independence:

[Dos Santos] In his speech, Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale underlined the issues to be discussed at the Third MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Congress, namely the results achieved in the past five years, and outlining a program of action for the next five years in the political, economic, productive, cultural, and social sectors.

Col. Gen. Tonha also discussed the government's plan of action, the aims of which include the correction of errors made over the past 15 years, and the introduction of appropriate measures at state administration level in order to overcome the difficult economic situation the country is facing.

Turning to the internal peace process in Angola, Tonha noted that the direct talks with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] have not yet achieved satisfactory results because of the naivete of the puppet gang led by Jonas Savimbi. He said that at the negotiating table, UNITA has always sought to oppose principles designed to reach consensus.

Finally, the Angolan defense minister urged FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] combatants to wage a relentless struggle against the enemy which is obsessed with taking power through the barrel of the gun.

Discusses Internal Peace

*MB1211210690 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Nov 90*

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel General Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale has discussed in Huila the Angolan internal peace process.

[Begin Tonha recording] If UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] insists on attacking civilians and destroying schools and hospitals, and on planting landmines and bombs in cities, in rural areas and [words indistinct], as well as destroying economic objectives, namely power lines, bridges, and water pipelines, it is because it is not familiar with the language of peace.

Without a dignified and just peace, it is not possible to create the conditions for the development and well-being of the Angolan people. Therefore, we have to attain peace even if it means more sacrifices and sweat. [end recording]

ANGOP Notes MPLA Efforts for Multipartyism

*MB1111070490 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
2008 GMT 10 Nov 90*

[Commentary: "Change Is Imperative"]

[Text] [No dateline as received] Angola is taking its first steps toward political, legal, and economic reorganization after 15 years of a fratricidal war between the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party, the only one in power, and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, "UNITA," the armed opposition led by Jonas Savimbi.

Fifteen years have passed since the proclamation of independence. Between a worsening of the already acute and dramatic conditions experienced by our society and the imperative need for change, the Angolan people have no option but to choose the latter.

The Angolan Government's (?plan) proposes far-reaching measures aimed at peace, national harmonization, development, and social progress. The introduction of a multiparty system, the restructuring of the MPLA-Labor Party, and change toward a market economy are the three principal points in the wide-ranging measures proposed by the governing party.

Multipartyism: the Inevitable Turnabout

The MPLA-Labor Party has governed the country within the framework of a one-party system since 11 November 1975. Now it is breaking away from its fears and hesitation and it is taking its first steps toward inevitable change and multiparty democracy. At the same time, support for change has been increasingly evident within the party, support favoring a move away from Marxism-Leninism toward social democracy or democratic socialism.

The MPLA-Labor Party's more open quarters have on several occasions shown their willingness to bring into the open the new framework they have in mind, but this has always met with resistance from the conservative forces. The sudden and unexpected decision to move toward change was caused by internal and external factors. Unquestionably, the main factor is the war against UNITA, an antigovernment movement that enjoys multifaceted support from the United States of America.

Washington decided in October of this year to freeze until December part of its lethal aid to Jonas Savimbi's gang (?under the condition that) during this period, Luanda stop receiving military aid from the Soviet Union and draw up a timetable for general multiparty elections in Angola within a reasonable deadline.

Among other reasons, what influenced the Angolan Government toward change was, in addition to U.S.

pressure, the general tendency of African states to move toward multiparty democracy and the USSR's decision to embark on perestroika, thereby leaving Angola out of its geopolitical plans. [Words indistinct] October the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee accepted the principle of partial changes to the national constitution with the institution of a multiparty system in Angola by the first quarter of 1991.

By the same token, the governing party aims to introduce a law on political parties by March of next year. Over the next 12 months, the government will generally revise and approve a new constitution following public debate. The consecration of multiparty democracy in the fundamental law of the nation and the approval of the document on political parties may yet satisfy UNITA's principal demand: to be recognized as the legal opposition.

The political and legal reorganization proposed by the MPLA-Labor Party also provides for the holding of general multiparty elections after the Angolan Government and UNITA have reached a cease-fire agreement. The deadlines for these multiparty elections must still be defined.

Prior to the elections [words indistinct] program to create a single national army. The MPLA-Labor Party's FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces and UNITA's FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces must by then no longer serve any party.

Other steps to be taken prior to the electoral process must be the clearing of military minefields throughout Angolan territory to ensure the free circulation of people and goods, to permit the holding of a population census, and to allow voters to register. These measures will also permit estimates to be obtained on the cost of these operations and the means needed to carry them out.

The Angolan governing party's Central Committee has recommended the creation of a census commission that will collaborate with the United Nations on an electoral census and identification tasks, as well as to calculate the necessary costs and to define the required means.

In a communique issued at the close of its extraordinary session, the MPLA-Labor Party omitted deadlines for the elections. These deadlines will be defined by experts at a later stage.

Jose Eduardo dos Santos, MPLA-Labor Party chairman, president of the People's Republic of Angola, and commander in chief of the Angolan Armed Forces, proposed that elections be held three years after the Angolan Government and UNITA have signed a cease-fire agreement.

Should Jonas Savimbi's movement respond favorably to Luanda's new proposals, one could reasonably estimate that hostilities might conclude by the first quarter of 1991. If the war ends by March 1991 and UNITA accepts Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' three-year proposal [word indistinct] that elections in Angolan might occur in 1993.

All that remains to be learned is whether this deadline will suffice for the holding of a population census and voter registration in a country that has been undercut and maimed by this 15-year-old war. Military experts say that the clearing of minefields may take years before proving really effective.

Whatever the case, multipartyism in Angola is now irreversible, at least from the standpoints of concept and intention. In practice, however, what may happen is that we will not have a multiparty but a two-party system because there is a clear polarization of political support for the MPLA-Labor Party and UNITA.

Unless there is a severe division within these two organizations, the only two at the moment, the proposed election deadline does not appear to be enough for the introduction and organization of other political forces in the country. Even if they emerge and participate in the elections, they will have little weight on the governmental scale because they are not likely to attract too many votes. However, irrespective of whether there are only two or more parties in Angola, the fact is there is a need to change and to advance along a logical and correct path. Better late than never it may be, but the Angolan people seem to have finally begun marching toward their ideals.

UNITA Representative on Conditions for Peace

LD1111033290 Lisbon Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0000 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] General Alicerces Mango, the representative in Portugal of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], speaking at a gathering marking the anniversary of Angola's independence, said that three fundamental points must be observed if a peace agreement is to be struck with the Angolan Government.

These points are the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola's recognition of UNITA as a political party, a lasting ceasefire, and the holding of free and democratic elections before the end of 1991.

At the gathering of some 500 people—including the mayors of Portimao, Silves, and Lagoa—General Alicerces Mango also urged Portuguese businessmen to invest in his country only after peace has been attained.

Mozambique

Security Minister Discusses Talks, Situation

MB0911191490 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 9 Nov 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] A third round of talks between the Mozambique Government and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebels is supposed to get underway in Rome today. Things were proceeding slowly over the first two rounds, but the process came to grief when the rebels

said they were not coming back to the conference table because Mozambican and Zimbabwean troops were mounting a big offensive in the rebel stronghold region of Gorongosa. Renamo called for the Mozambican Army to pull back, but they didn't, and the government says it intends to flush the rebels out.

Well, the minister for state security, Mariano Matsinhe, is in London, and Akweyz Muso asked him how the offensive was going:

[Begin recording] [Matsinhe] Quite successful, better than in the past. The performance of our soldiers are far much better now, but I want to make it clear that we don't seek a military solution to this problem. There is no military solution at all. You know, we might defeat militarily Renamo, but we won't solve the problem. There will still be resentment, bitterness, and so on. So, what we want, really, is to solve, to exercise reconciliation process to have a durable peace. And we think that the multiparty system will create these conditions whereby then no section or sector of our population are denied political participation or the involvement in political life.

[Muso] You say that you are seeking a peaceful solution, but Renamo after the last round of peace talks said very strongly that it wanted the Zimbabwean forces pulled back and reined in because it felt that it was taking too much of a hammering from them. Why was that not done?

[Matsinhe] Well, we were taken aback actually because Renamo has been insisting that they want direct talks with the Mozambique Government without precondition. So, they were the first to propose that we should come together and talk without any preconditions. Now, what they were saying—fortunately we have overcome now, we are in Rome—but what they were saying was a complete contradiction from their previous positions.

[Muso] But surely what was being said was that Maputo was following a two-handed strategy. On the one hand it was talking and saying, yes we will have direct talks. But in

the bush it was being ever more aggressive with the rebels and they felt that this was not in the spirit of the talks.

[Matsinhe] Oh, no. In the spirit of the talks we proposed that to create that climate of the talks will be an agreement on cease-fire. So, the other part refused and they preferred to go on fighting. We said, all right, let's us talk while we fight.

[Muso] How hopeful are you that there will be a deal for a cease-fire this week?

[Matsinhe] Now, we don't underestimate the situation. It's not a very simple, you know. This war has been going on for a long, long time and the mistrust has beat us. Bitterness has beat us. So, we might need some time to overcome the psychological—it's more psychological—problem. And as I said before somewhere, that the multiparty arrangement might be a way out of this situation, a difficult situation.

[Muso] Are there any particular concessions that the government is willing to make to Renamo at this stage?

[Matsinhe] First, we will have to know what they want. We don't know. You see, we have been twice together in Rome, but we have failed to go into matters of substance. So, we hope in this third round we will go into the issues.

[Muso] Supposing they ask you to take some of their people into the government at this stage.

[Matsinhe] Well, if I were Renamo I wouldn't need that thing. They claim to have 80 percent of the support of the population and if I were Renamo I would campaign for election and oust Frelimo from power.

[Muso, interrupting] But they may say that since they are not in power they will never be able to know whether such election would be fairly run.

[Matsinhe] I think they are confident. They, themselves. I and Frelimo know that we are unbeaten even in the democratic battlefield as it were, but they seem that they are also confident that Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] has lost support, and that all the support, they have from the people. [end recording]

Ghana

Liberia's Sawyer Meets Rawlings, Refugees

AB1011092890 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has held discussions with a delegation of the interim government in Liberia. The delegation was led by the head of the government, Dr. Amos Sawyer. The talks were attended by a member of the PNDC in charge of foreign affairs and national security, Captain Kojo Tsikata, and the deputy secretary for foreign affairs, Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambass. Dr. Sawyer had earlier laid a wreath at the military cemetery in memory of Ghanaian soldiers who lost their lives during ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping operations.

Meanwhile, the head of the Liberian interim government, Dr. Amos Sawyer, has appealed to all Liberians to close their ranks and find a solution to the crisis in their country. He was addressing Liberian refugees at Gomoa (Bofro) in the Central Region today. George Cransey Yamson has this story:

[Begin recording] [Crowd shouting: We want Sawyer, we want Sawyer, we want Sawyer.]

[Yamson] The popularity that Dr. Amos Sawyer enjoys in Liberia was manifest today by the enthusiastic welcome accorded him by the refugees when he arrived at Gomoa Buduburam to address them. The move of the Liberians showed that they are fed up with the senseless civil war in their country and that they hope for an end to hostilities to enable them to return home to lead a normal life. It also showed that Liberians fully endorse the interim government set up under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] to run the country. All that they were singing was that they want Dr. Amos Sawyer.

Addressing the refugees, Dr. Sawyer said the main duty of all Liberians is to strive to bring peace to their country. He therefore appealed to all parties to the conflict to cooperate with the ECOWAS peacekeeping force in Liberia to make this a reality. Dr. Sawyer said that the problem ahead is a difficult one, but Liberians should live up to their task. The problem, he said, will persist no matter how hard other countries try to help them if they do not unite. Dr. Sawyer said the process toward installing the interim government in Liberia might seem slow; however, a lot of underground work is being done to lay a solid foundation to make the interim government deliver the goods once it takes office. This includes making contacts with foreign countries and donor agencies for assistance. Mr. Sawyer, however, assured the refugees that the interim government is preparing to get into Monrovia. He said the first thing that the government will do will be to put the appropriate structures into place to enable all refugees to come

home to help in the national reconstruction efforts. Dr. Sawyer, therefore, called for support of all to make this goal attainable.

[Sawyer] What I want to say to you is (?to bear) with us. I want to inform you that we are now finishing all the preparations to go into Monrovia very soon. [applause] As soon as we go into Monrovia, we will begin to put into effect plans so that our people can start coming back.

[Yamson] He appealed to the refugees to comport themselves to reciprocate the good gestures shown by the Government and people of Ghana toward them. The secretary for mobilization and social welfare, Mr. D.S. Boateng, expressed the hope that the good sense will prevail and that all Liberians will bury their personal interests for the sake of national unity. [end recording]

News Conference Held

AB1011214590 Paris AFP in English 1758 GMT
10 Nov 90

[Text] Accra, Nov 10 (AFP)—Liberia's interim president, Amos Sawyer, said in Ghana's capital Saturday that his preoccupation is seeking lasting peace to the 10-month-old civil war and making life return to normal in the country instead of moving personally to the beleaguered Liberian capital, Monrovia. Mr. Sawyer, who heads an interim government of national unity told a press conference that his administration has continued to hold out the olive branch to the main rebel leader Charles Taylor who has so far snubbed all peace efforts. "We hope that Mr. Taylor will turn in his military chips for political chips and join in efforts to find a lasting peace," he said.

Mr. Sawyer, an academician, said his government-in-exile has been moving gradually to Monrovia and is making its presence felt. It has sent a team to help in the distribution of relief supplies and another to hold discussions with relief agencies to ensure a constant supply of relief items.

The government, formed under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), has sent in officials to negotiate with people in Liberia and with Liberians elsewhere on various portfolios. Liberian technicians are also working with the West African peacekeeping force to repair some of the damage caused to the country's infrastructure.

"It is a gradual process of movement into Liberia. Each level shows a greater level of government. ...Since I don't constitute the government don't think my absence will in itself lead to a problem that cannot be resolved," Mr. Sawyer said. A senior Ghana government official said Sawyer would go to Nigeria on Monday to meet with Nigerian officials then meet the Gambian leader Dawda Jawara.

Mr. Sawyer said the latest military skirmishes by Mr. Taylor to re-take some of the positions he lost to his rival, Prince Johnson and the West African peacekeeping

force would hinder peace and security in the country. He urged Mr. Taylor "who has shown no ideological differences, no significant differences other than a quest for power" to end the skirmishes and seek genuine peace.

"Mr. Taylor as a patriot should perceive the interests of the people above personal ambition," he said. Sawyer said as the interim government moves in, he believes that soon "there will be a cause for hope as we begin the process of healing."

Asked about reported objections raised to some members of his government by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Sawyer said he had heard those "rumours," but that Mr. Johnson has not raised those objections to him in several talks they have had. "He (Johnson) is a party to the Banjul agreement and we expect he will abide by results of that meeting... I doubt whether he will have any objections."

He said his government enjoys the support of local sources—all six political parties, the teachers organisation and other groups. He said his administration was also in touch with the United States on how to end the bloodshed.

Ivory Coast

President Receives Rwandan Envoy Nyandwi

AB1111161290 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] President Felix Houphouet-Boigny yesterday received an envoy from Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana. Charles Nyandwi, minister of higher education and scientific research, was bearer of a message from General Habyarimana. The message concerned the current situation in Rwanda. The Rwandan emissary took this occasion to congratulate, on behalf of the Rwandan head of state, President Houphouet-Boigny for his reelection. As we know, Rwanda is currently plagued by civil war and Charles Nyandwi reviewed the current situation to the press after his audience with the head of state:

[Begin Nyandwi recording] As you know, Rwanda has been attacked by elements from Uganda. These elements are members of the Ugandan Army. They are made up of Rwandan refugees and Ugandans. Fighting has been going on for the past month in the northeast of the country. The rebels were repulsed, but a few days ago, they reinfiltred the country. According to the information I received today, the Rwandan Army has once again repulsed them. All that we are asking Africa is to help us. We are speaking of our friends, of course. We are asking them to peacefully settle this problem.

In Rwanda, we have always sought to live peacefully since our independence—peace among the ethnic groups. Since the Second Republic, that is during President Habyarimana's 17-year rule, he has always worked toward peaceful coexistence among the people. That is why, despite the ongoing fighting at the country's border, the people have remained calm in order to help the government fight the enemy. [end recording]

Soviet Envoy on Political, Economic Relations

AB1211170890 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN
in French 9 Nov 90 pp 6-7

[Interview with Soviet Ambassador Boris Minakov by FRATERNITE MATIN correspondent Yaya Sow in Abidjan—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Sow] Your Excellency, what are the prospects for cooperation between the Soviet Union and Ivory Coast?

[Minakov] The 73d anniversary of the Great October 1917 Socialist Revolution offers me the opportunity to send my sentiments of deep respect and friendship to the Ivory Coast and the friendly Ivorian people. I would, at the same time, like to stress our desire to expand the mutually advantageous Soviet-Ivorian cooperation which has always remained strong. It is true that in recent times profound changes, which are radically transforming Soviet society and the political and economic life of our country, are tied to certain difficulties the USSR is experiencing, but it is a phenomenon which we consider to be transient. [passage omitted]

Concerning our relations with Ivory Coast, I would like to stress that they are stable and are characterized by mutual respect. A lot of examples concerning the spirit underlying these relations can be cited in this regard: we hailed the election of Ivory Coast as a member of the UN Security Council; we duly appreciated the message of congratulations sent by His Excellency Mr. Felix Houphouet-Boigny on the occasion of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. I am convinced that such a reciprocal attitude creates a favorable atmosphere, and opens new prospects for the development of Soviet-Ivorian relations. [passage omitted]

[Sow] It has been four years since the restoration of diplomatic relations between our two countries and the reopening of the Soviet Embassy in Abidjan. What have been the outstanding events of this period?

[Minakov] Well, it is possible to state with certainty that the balance-sheet of this period is generally positive. The credit goes to both governments which have spared no efforts for mutual understanding in order to lay a solid foundation of exemplary cooperation. It is now time for concrete action to translate into real deeds our joint preparedness to cooperate frankly, openly, and cordially. [passage omitted]

[Sow] Ivory Coast is facing an economic crisis. The USSR is also facing difficult times in changing to a market economy. Can Soviet-Ivorian cooperation help our two countries to overcome these difficulties which, it is hoped, are temporary?

[Minakov] In my opinion, the difficulties of a man or a country should not lead to pessimism. On the contrary, they should be a stimulant in the search for means to better serve the interests of one's country and the cause of international cooperation.

Trade between the USSR and Ivory Coast considerably increased in recent years, considering the volume of our imports from Ivory Coast. Ivory Coast has become our third largest partner in Africa. It supplies us with large quantities of cocoa, cocoa butter, timber, and its by-products, granulated polyvinyl chloride products etc. The bulk of Ivorian imports from the USSR consists of frozen fish. The needs of both countries, as part of this bilateral trade, justify the existence of maritime links between the ports of our two countries.

The new conditions that so seriously characterize the economic situation in our respective countries make it imperative for us to demonstrate ingenuity and a sense of enterprise in order to find appropriate and original solutions to the problems of development. I mean the possibility of concluding barter trade agreements, of setting up mixed economy companies, joint ventures, and concluding multilateral agreements etc. The Soviet external trade mechanism favors the achievement of these goals because it has given our country's businessmen—those businessmen, cooperative societies, enterprises, and others—the right to open up freely to international markets. I am sure Ivory Coast, which has rich and varied potentialities, will take advantage of this opening up and find, thanks to cooperation with the Soviet Union, alternative means to cushion, at least partially, the deterioration of trade terms. Already, we can mention a highly positive result of our cooperation, in particular in the field of education: several hundred Ivorians have been trained in Soviet institutions of higher learning and are currently serving their country with competence and devotion.

It is hoped that the legal framework of our ties will be adapted to the needs of their development. My wish in this regard is to see the conclusion as soon as possible of a trade agreement and an accord on air transport.

[Sow] It is well known that our two countries are committed to peace. Is this commitment translated through an exchange of views in the international field and is this commitment profitable for smooth bilateral cooperation?

[Minakov] The atmosphere of friendship and understanding prevailing at all levels of our bilateral ties cannot be achieved without the active goodwill of the authorities of the two countries both at the bilateral and international levels. Concerned about the maintenance of peace and universal stability without which no harmonious and equitable development can be conceived and achieved, the USSR and the Ivory Coast advocate a world without war or violence and governed by international rights and peaceful coexistence where the use of force in interstate relations will be banned forever. This position has naturally led to useful political dialogue and consultations in international organizations, more particularly within the UN Security Council.

Representatives from our countries meet there and help find solutions to burning current issues, especially the search for political solutions to the Gulf crisis.

The interaction of our countries on the international scene is very beneficial because it gives the relations between the two countries the stamp of confidence and good intelligence. It favors contacts and exchanges at all levels and calls for responsibility in the implementation of our cooperation.

Liberia

NPFL 'Poised To Take' Remainder of Monrovia

AB0911205090 *Gbarnga Voice of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia Radio No. 2 in English*
1900 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] As the NPFL [National Patriotic Forces of Liberia] forces keep (?inflicting) heavy casualties on the Prince Johnson-ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African State Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] troops in the final battle for Monrovia, earlier erroneous reports of the so-called Amos Sawyer (?government) being set up in Monrovia have been temporarily shattered. Reports reaching ELBC [Liberian Broadcasting Company] from the battlefield say that the NPFL forces are now poised to take what is left of the tiny area of Monrovia that has provided sanctuary for the invading ECOMOG forces.

The ECOMOG Nigerian field commander admitted in a BBC interview yesterday that the ECOMOG troops sustained heavy casualties in a blistering offensive by the NPFL forces on the ECOMOG-Prince Johnson factions once and for all. It is becoming increasingly clear that the ECOMOG-Prince Johnson forces have both lost the diplomatic and military stand to the NPFL. With the NPFL forces making spectacular strikes against the invading ECOMOG forces, and the NPRA's [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] diplomatic initiative, it is becoming quite clear that this popular uprising, which started only 11 months ago, is now coming to a victorious end for the NPFL under the able leadership of His Excellency President Charles Gankay Taylor. The prevailing mood among the NPFL forces, indeed throughout the country, is one of unbridled enthusiasm and elation as the final defeat of the ECOMOG-Prince Johnson boys [words indistinct].

Taylor Retakes Fendall; Johnson on Defensive

AB0911185290 *London BBC World Service in English*
1709 GMT 9 Nov 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The people of Monrovia are still awaiting the arrival of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States]-appointed interim government for Liberia and its president, Amos Sawyer, so far in vain. And meanwhile, Charles Taylor's rebels, who have

launched a fresh counter-offensive against the West African ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group] force and Prince Johnson's rebel faction, are making more progress as Scott Sterns reports from Monrovia:

[Begin Sterns recording] As the wait for Sawyer's two-month old interim government continues day to day, Taylor forces have recaptured Fendall, 30 km northeast of the capital, and have attacked the water treatment facility at White Plains along the St. Paul River. Retaking much of the ground lost last month, Taylor rebels have driven the forces of Prince Johnson into a defensive posture, as Johnson repeated calls for an ECOMOG offensive.

ECOMOG troops have held their dug-in positions against Taylor attacks in Paynesville, 20 km east of the city. A spokesman for Field Commander Joshua Dogonyaro said Taylor's antics will not delay Sawyer's arrival. The spokesman added that ECOMOG has declared Monrovia safe and will not allow Taylor to come within artillery range, though it has no plans to break its mandate of enforcing a cease-fire by attacking him directly.

Johnson also believes the city remains safe, but is concerned by Taylor advances on Mount Barclay and the Omega relay station, 20 km to the northeast, believes Taylor could shell parts of the city from this area. Armed Taylor rebels in civilian clothing were discovered this afternoon in Gardnersville, less than 10 km from the Free Port, Johnson said. Johnson said he would maintain defensive positions at the water treatment facility hit this morning by rocket-propelled grenades from the river's opposite bank. Johnson said his forces did not return fire and instead waited to ambush a dozen Taylor men who crossed the river to investigate.

A week ago, Johnson commandos were set to take Kakata, but without ECOMOG support, they were forced to withdraw, Johnson said. Since the retreat, Taylor has regained more than 30 km of the Kakata-Paynesville highway and were [as heard] said to join troops defeated two weeks ago near the coast. But he will have to break through well fortified ECOMOG positions if he hopes to encircle eastern Monrovia. [end recording]

Diplomatic Sources Say Nimley in Nigeria

AB0911231090 Paris AFP in English 2153 GMT
9 Nov 90

[Text] Lagos, Nov 9 (AFP)—The commander of Liberia's Presidential Guard, General David Nimley, this week fled Monrovia and has taken refuge in Nigeria, according to regional diplomatic sources. But a Nigerian Government source on Friday refused to comment on the reports. "That rumour has been running for three days, nothing to say about it," the source said.

Diplomatic sources have cited reports that Gen. Nimley, who became one of Liberia's self-appointed heads of state after President Samuel Doe was killed by a rebel

faction in September, escaped Monday to Freetown, Sierra Leone. He was last seen in Freetown aboard a Nigerian military helicopter, the reports said. A Nigerian contingent forms a large part of a West African peace-keeping force sent to Liberia in August.

"We have helicos in support of our services, going to Freetown with light planes, but not taking part in the military operations," was all the government source would say here Friday. The chief of staff of the intervention force this week said that an interim government set up under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) would be installed in Liberia next week.

NPRA Government Launches 'Official Newsletter'

AB0911225890 Gbarnga Voice of the National
Patriotic Front of Liberia Radio No. 2 in English
1900 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] The first lady, Mrs. Agnes Taylor, says she is prepared to [words indistinct] and defend the press in Liberia if they continue to report the facts and stand by their story. Mrs. Taylor said in this historical era of our country, it is important for the press to present the true and clear picture of the situation in Liberia by detracting all the false stories carried by the foreign media against the NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] Government.

Responding to the opening speech at the launching ceremony of the official newsletter, THE PATRIOT, of the government today in Gbarnga City, Bong County, the first lady said the press is the medium for spreading information and promoting the objectives and policies of the NPRA Government at home and abroad, and as such journalists must uphold the ethics of journalism. She said this can be achieved if the journalists try always to write balanced and factual stories and fearlessly be prepared to defend whatsoever they publish.

During the program, which was followed by a fund-raising rally in order to set up an operational fund for the paper, Mrs. Taylor contributed \$1,500 in cash to the fund.

Also speaking at the occasion, the coordinator general of the NPRA press, Mr. Joe Molba, praised the NPRA Government for upholding press freedom in country as guaranteed by the Constitution. He said since the inception of the NPRA Government, journalists have continued to enjoy the preference and cooperation from the government. He then appealed to the government to assist the paper to achieve its aims and objectives.

More than \$3,000 was realized in cash and pledges during the fund-raising exercise.

Commander Reminds Nation of Taylor's Sacrifices

AB1011091290 *Gbarnga Voice of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia Radio No. 2 in English*
1900 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] The commander of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] 1st Battalion, (Edward Minley), has issued a strong warning to all NPFL forces to be on the alert for enemies of the revolution and not to allow themselves to be [words indistinct]. Speaking to newsmen at ELBC, Commander (Minley) reminded the nation that it is through the personal sacrifice of President Charles Gankay Taylor, that the Liberian people have been saved from the brutal and inhumane (?madness) of the defunct Doe regime. Accordingly, Commander (Minley) has vowed that anyone—civilian or soldier—caught working against this revolution, will be dealt with.

The 1st Battalion commander denounced the hypocritical and ungrateful attitude on the part of (Harry Nuahn) and (?daughter) adding: Have they forgotten the (?sordid) destruction, the [words indistinct] treatment they received during the Nimba raid? Commander (Minley) recounted the punishment inflicted on innocent citizens by the late Doe. He seriously advised all true Liberians to remain vigilant and be thankful to President Gankay Taylor for restoring what he called true freedom to the Liberian people.

Memorandum Signed To Reactivate Mine Activities

AB1111100290 *Gbarnga Voice of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia Radio No. 2 in English*
1900 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] A memorandum of understanding followed by a declaration of intent has been signed between the NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] government and A.N. Steel, a leading [word indistinct] mining consortium, for the resumption of mining activities at the iron ore mining at the Liberian-Guinean border. A spokesman at the Ministry of Lands, Mines, and Energy in Gbarnga City said the understanding is intended to lay the ground work for the reactivation of the mines.

It must be recalled that when LAMCO [Liberian-American Mining Company] J.V. Operating Company pulled out of Liberia last year, A.N. Steel stepped in and set up its subsidiary, Linco [Liberian Nimba Company], to manage the Nimba mines.

Lull Reported in Fighting; Border Fortified

AB1211211690 *London BBC World Service in English*
1709 GMT 12 Nov 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In Liberia, for some time now, residents of the capital, Monrovia, have been expecting members of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States]-sponsored interim government led by Amos Sawyer to arrive in the city and take up office under the

protection of the West African force, ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], and rebel leader Prince Johnson. Both are still fighting Charles Taylor's forces to the east of the city. Well, it seems that at least, some members of the new government arrived over the weekend. On the line to Monrovia, Robin White asked Scott Sterns, who exactly had turned up.

[Begin recording] [Sterns] Well, Vice President Diggs and approximately 40 members of the interim government of national unity came in on Friday, expecting Sawyer on Sunday. And the Armed Forces of Liberia Band was ready to play the national anthem, and we were all out there, with banners and everything going. And apparently, Amos Sawyer has gone on to Lagos to talk to Babangida. And we expect him here on Wednesday now.

[White] What has the interim government so far done?

[Sterns] Nothing. No one in the interim government is making any sort of statement until Amos Sawyer gets here.

[White] But have they started any discussions with anybody?

[Sterns] Well, they are in their normal consultations. They have talked to Dogonyaro in ECOMOG, they talked to Johnson, and I do not know whether they have talked to the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] yet or not, but again that has all been pretty closed-door. And there is really the sense here that we have all been waiting for Amos now for over two months, and there is no rush to get out and make policy statements until he gets here himself.

[White] Where have they set up shop?

[Sterns] At the Ducor Hotel in central Monrovia. It is the highest ground. There were some refugees squatting there for quite some time. They moved them out two weeks ago, turned on the power, and I think they may even have running water over there.

[White] But are they going to work in government buildings?

[Sterns] That is not clear. At this point I think they will be running the government from the Ducor. They have taken three floors of the hotel, and I think that they will be running it from there. There is a sense that the interim government wants to stay away from government buildings. There is just a bad feeling about them, I think. No, I do not think Amos Sawyer has any intention of ruling from the Executive Mansion or the Hall of Justice or any of the government buildings there in Eastern Monrovia.

[White] In fact are the government buildings serviceable?

[Sterns] To varying degrees. Because they are all around the Executive Mansion, when the heavy fighting was there, they have all been hit pretty bad.

[White] What is the latest on the military situation? At the end of last week, there were reports that Charles Taylor was advancing once again on the capital. What is the latest news on that?

[Sterns] It has been a stalled weekend, no fresh fighting this weekend. Taylor is still in Fendall. The Johnson people have driven him out of Mount Barclay. But I do not think that means ... [changes thought] Really, holding Mount Barclay is not more than maybe 15 buildings. So he is still outside artillery range of the city. His offensive seems to have stalled. Either that or they are waiting for reinforcements. But there was very little fighting this weekend.

[White] And how far is Taylor away from the capital now, approximately?

[Sterns] Well, Fendall, and Fendall is about 30 kilometers northeast of the capital. That is as close as he has been able to get. [end recording]

Meanwhile, across the border in Sierra Leone, the Freetown Government seems to be taking precautions to secure its territory. It started deploying its forces along the frontier with Liberia, as James Setua reports in this telex from Freetown:

[Begin studio announcer recording] The number of troops involved has not been disclosed, but eyewitnesses said that about 10 trucks loaded with armed soldiers were seen heading toward the border early last week. The troops arrived at the various border posts five days after Charles Taylor's threat to take action against Sierra Leone. An informed source at the border who referred to the deployment only as reinforcements, told me that Sierra Leone has the right and obligation to protect her territory at all times, whether there is a threat or not. Taylor's rebels are reported to have reinforced and fortified their border positions when the Sierra Leone soldiers arrived. The atmosphere at the border became tense, as though trouble was about to flare up. But so far, no incident has been reported.

Meanwhile, prior to the arrival of the troops, the rebels went on a selling spree, bringing hundreds of items across the border to Sierra Leone for sale, amidst reports that ECOMOG forces were advancing toward the border. The items included vehicles, refrigerators, cassette recorders, empty drums, and brooms. Some of the rebels decided to get lost during the selling spree, grounding their guns and running away to Sierra Leone. Asked why he decided to leave, one fleeing rebel told me, I left because I was tired. [end recording]

Sawyer To Visit Lagos, Banjul, Conakry

AB1211201090 Paris AFP in English 1730 GMT
12 Nov 90

[Text] Freetown, Nov. 12 (AFP)—Liberia's interim president Professor Amos Sawyer is on a four-nation consultation visit on his way to the Liberian capital, Monrovia,

this week for the inauguration of his government, a peacekeeping force's political ambassador in Freetown said Monday. According to Joshua Iroha from the regional economic grouping that sent peacekeeping troops into Liberia, Mr. Sawyer's visit started over the weekend in Accra, Ghana before going to Nigeria, the Gambia and Guinea.

Mr. Iroha said Mr. Sawyer will travel direct from Conakry to Monrovia but did not say how long the visit to the four countries would last. African diplomats said Monday the inauguration of the interim government is to take place Thursday at the Executive Mansion.

Mr. Sawyer's deputy, Bishop Ronald Diggs and six members of the interim government left Freetown Saturday by a Nigerian Navy plane for Monrovia. Mr. Iroha said that all administrative officers appointed by the interim government as well as 200 Liberian civil servants who were residing in Freetown for the past six months as displaced persons have returned to Monrovia "to start normal life in the city." He added, "arrangements are in progress for 1,000 Liberians, including businessmen, to return to Monrovia by the Nigerian naval ship, Ambe."

The interim government was elected by members of Liberian political parties and interest groups including the warring parties during a conference in Banjul from August 27 to September 2. The other parties to the dispute, Prince Johnson and supporters of slain President Samuel Doe agreed to cooperate with the interim government while the main rebel leader Charles Taylor has vowed to continue the war.

Mr. Charles Taylor claimed that the interim government does not have the mandate of the Liberian people and "therefore not in a position to serve their interest." The full list of the members of the interim government has not been publicly disclosed. Meanwhile, five Nigerian Embassy staff have left over the weekend to resume work in Monrovia.

ECOWAS Says Mercenaries With Taylor Forces

AB1211162090 Paris AFP in English 1606 GMT
12 Nov 90

[Text] Lagos, Nov 12 (AFP)—Foreign mercenaries have trained guerrillas in the main Liberian rebel group, led by Charles Taylor, and have been fighting alongside them, ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] headquarters stated here Monday. The regional economic grouping that sent peacekeeping troops into Liberia did not say what nationality the mercenaries were, but noted in a statement that an ECOWAS ministerial contact group would visit Libya on Sunday.

Brigadier Cyril Iweze, chief of the intervention force, said here last week that some weapons seized from rebels of Mr. Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) carried Libyan labels and marks.

A five-member contact group from the Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria and Togo, assisted by Abbas Bundu, executive secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), will go to Tripoli for two days on Sunday. The delegation will meet the Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi, to discuss means of ending to civil war in Liberia, the ECOWAS statement said.

The bloody conflict began when Mr. Taylor launched a bid to overthrow the late president Samuel Doe in December. Mr. Doe was in September put to death by a breakaway rebel faction led by Prince Johnson. An extraordinary summit meeting of all 16 members of the ECOWAS is to be held in Bamako, Mali, on November 27, the statement confirmed, following a meeting also in Bamako of the seven-nation ECOWAS standing mediation committee.

A number of international relief agencies and some Western countries such as France, Belgium and the United States have been giving relief materials to the Liberian refugees in Monrovia, it also said. The ambassadors of some ECOWAS nations have returned to Monrovia in preparation for the installation of the interim government of Professor Amos Sawyer, while a large number of Liberian refugees in neighbouring countries are also returning to the country, said the statement.

Nigeria

Security 'On Alert' in View of Taylor Threat

AB1111131290 Lagos International Service
in English 1030 GMT 11 Nov 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Stories on Liberia make front-page headlines in four newspapers, SUNDAY PUNCH, SUNDAY TIMES, SUNDAY CONCORD, and the GUARDIAN ON SUNDAY [as heard]. The SUNDAY TIMES reports that Radio Liberty, Monrovia, will begin its maiden broadcast from tomorrow morning. The paper says Radio Liberty will aim to give out correct information to Liberians on the exact position of events in their country in line with the determination by the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] forces to restore peace and stability. The SUNDAY TIMES also reports that the main theme of the broadcast in Gio, Mandingo, and Krahn, Liberia's main languages, is to appeal to the warring factions to seek peace. Details given by the paper include broadcast of (?feature) interviews, comments, and views of Liberian refugees spread across West Africa.

With a lead story tagged, Taylor Threatens To Bomb Nigeria, the SUNDAY PUNCH says Nigerian security agencies have been put on alert following reports of a planned aerial attack on Nigeria by Liberia's rebel leader, Charles Taylor. The paper quotes diplomatic sources as saying that Taylor is seeking the assistance of the Libyan Government for the proposed attack as a

followup to his promise to take reprisal actions against countries involved in ECOMOG operations in Liberia.

The SUNDAY PUNCH says the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] chairman, Sir Dawda Jawara of The Gambia, has received a letter from a group called Movement for the Total Liberation of Liberia, ordering the ECOMOG forces to leave Liberia within two days.

The GUARDIAN ON SUNDAY in another story says the Liberian interim government president, Dr. Amos Sawyer, will be in Monrovia tomorrow, fully backed by ECOMOG security for installation in the week bearing any eventuality. According to the paper, the cabinet of the ECOWAS-sponsored Liberian National Conference and a host of other loyalists of government left for Monrovia yesterday.

But the SUNDAY CONCORD front-page story says Nigeria has granted political asylum to the former Liberian communications minister under the Samuel Doe government, Mr. Morris Dukuly, along with other principal actors of the former regime. The paper says this gesture is an apparent demonstration of good neighborliness by the Federal Government following last month's request that they be granted political asylum in Nigeria in view of the present crisis ravaging their country.

Police Exchange Fire With Rioters in Anambra

AB1211181690 Paris AFP in English 1757 GMT
12 Nov 90

[Text] Lagos, Nov 12 (AFP)—Two persons died while four policemen were hospitalised following a fierce clash between policemen and rioters at Nkpor village in Nigeria's eastern Anambra state, official NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reported here Monday. Trouble erupted last Thursday when a suspect was about to be lynched by an irate mob after an alarm that he "stole" the private organs of another man, NAN said.

The police intervened to save the life of the suspect and arrested some traders at the Nkpor market over the incident, the agency said. The following day, in a reaction to the arrest, rioters barricaded roads leading to the village by setting fire on used tyres and a police office in the area, as well as smashing a police vehicle. The police were forced to exchange fire with rioters, and one rioter was killed, the police officer in charge of the area said.

Dozens of persons suspected to have been responsible for the alleged disappearance of genitals have been lynched in Lagos over the past month. About 150 persons have been arrested in the Nigerian capital for allegedly causing a breach of the peace by causing a scare over missing organs, Lagos police spokesman had said.

Sierra Leone

'Near Passive' U.S. Role in Liberia Noted

AB1111183290 Paris AFP in English 1805 GMT
11 Nov 90

[Text] Freetown, Nov 11 (AFP)—The independent NEW CITIZEN newspaper of Sierra Leone this weekend criticised U.S. policy in civil war-racked neighbouring Liberia as "near passive" in the face of the bloody chaos there. In a special commentary headed "America Should Do More", it said that "one development that has struck observers as bizarre and almost inexplicable is the near passive role that America is playing in the disastrous mayhem that is the Liberian civil war."

It urged that instead of making just a "token appearance", the United States "should come out swiftly and make effective commitments both politically and financially to bring the carnage in Liberia to an end." The United States has traditionally had close relations with Liberia, which was founded in the 19th century by freed slaves descended from Africans taken to America by force.

Meanwhile people in Sierra Leone have been expressing a desire to see the country quit the West African peace-keeping force ECOMOG [Economic Community of

West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] which has been sent to Monrovia. There is also resentment at the influx of Liberians displaced by the conflict.

There was shock in Freetown when Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor hinted in a BBC broadcast on November 1 that he would like to destroy the airport here because, he said, it was being used by ECOMOG warplanes making raids in Liberia. Responding to that threat, the same issue of NEW CITIZEN reported President Joseph Momoh as describing it as "ungrateful and cowardly". Mr. Taylor "of all people" should realise the problems and cost that the Liberian war was causing to Sierra Leone, he said.

"We are stretching our resources to take care of his people, our social amenities have been overtaxed and even our economy dislodged," he said, also noting that it "wouldn't be easy" for Mr. Taylor to bomb Freetown airport. "Besides, this would be tantamount to a declaration of war on all five countries that make up ECOMOG (Guinea, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Gambia and Nigeria)," Mr. Momoh said.

One military officer in Freetown, reacting to the report in NEW CITIZEN, said simply: "Take ECOMOG out of Liberia today and the war will be over."

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